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BIRMINGHAM TRIENNIAL MUSICAL FESTIVAL.

IN AID OF THE FUNDS OF
THE BIRMINGHAM GENERAL HOSPITAL.

THIRTIETH CELEBRATION.

On TUESDAY, the 30th of August.

WEDNESDAY, the 31st of August.

THURSDAY, the 1st of September.

FRIDAY, the 2nd of September.

PATRONS.

Her Most Gracious Majesty the QUEEN.

His Royal Highness the PRINCE OF WALES.

Her Royal Highness the PRINCESS OF WALES.

Her Royal Highness the DUCHESS OF CAMBRIDGE.

His Royal Highness the DUKE OF CAMBRIDGE.

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Vice-Presidents—The NOBILITY and GENTRY of the MIDLAND COUNTIES.

By order.

HOWARD S. SMITH, Secretary.

Argyle Chambers, Colmore-row, Birmingham.

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FRED. W. BREARY, Hon. Sec.

WORKMENS' INTERNATIONAL EXHIBITION, 1870.

AGRICULTURAL HALL, ISLINGTON.

PATRONAGE—HER MAJESTY THE QUEEN.

This Exhibition will be opened by H.R.H. the PRINCE OF WALES, on SATURDAY, the 18th of July, 1870, at 3 p.m.

Season Tickets, admitting to the Opening Ceremony, price 1s. each, to be had at the Office of the Exhibition, Bedford-street, Liverpool-road, Islington, and at the Working Men's Club and Institute Unit, 150, Strand, W.C.

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June 31, 1870.

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LITERATURE

Commercial Treaties, Free Trade and Internationalism. By a "Disciple of Richard Cobden." (Manchester, Ireland & Co.; London, Macmillan & Co.)

THIS is a republication, by the Cobden Club, of a series of letters, marked by extraordinary ability and originality, which have appeared at intervals during the last few weeks in the *Manchester Examiner and Times*, and the authorship of which is as great a mystery to economists as is that of Junius to the outside public. They relate to a question of great national importance, which not only affects very closely Mr. Cobden's political reputation, but upon which the most singular differences of opinion still prevail among those professing Free Trade principles.

While most of the leading statesmen and economists of Europe have seen, in the beneficent results of the international tariff reforms of the last ten years, the natural and necessary consequences of a sound and enlightened policy, and while the efforts of all who are practically interested in the extension of our foreign trade are exerted in every direction to maintain and extend them, prominent members of the Liberal party in England, and many of the organs of that party in the London press, appear to regard an agreement between two countries to reduce duties on each other's products, and to extend such reductions to the products of all other countries, as the violation of some sacred law, and as damaging in some mysterious manner, which has never yet been defined, the cause of free exchange. This distracted state of public opinion on one of the most important branches of our national policy is probably in a great measure due, as the "Disciple" observes, to the effect upon the human mind of dogmas and formulas plausibly stated and steadily repeated, by those who have the ear of the public; but it is also partly due to a very great amount of ignorance, both as to the facts which are the subject of discussion and as to the principles which are the object of attack.

We are often told, when the Treaty with France is invoked in justification of our recent policy, that this particular Treaty (for few Free-traders are bold enough now to assail that measure) was the exception, and not the rule; whereas, in the state of facts with which we have to deal, this is the very reverse of the truth, the policy of that Treaty being the rule, and not the exception, throughout Europe. The French Treaty of 1860 is now merely a part of the European system. By England alone similar treaties have been concluded with Belgium, Prussia, Italy, Austria and Turkey; by France with every country in Europe except Russia; and by all these other countries with each other; so that it is probably within the mark to say that the Anglo-French Treaty is only one, and the first of a series of fifty or sixty similar agreements between the States of Europe, while there is absolutely no argument and no objection which can be urged against any of the latter, which cannot, with equal truth, be urged against the Treaty with France. Those, then, who condemn the principles or policy of recent commercial treaties

must be prepared to affirm that the French Treaty, with all its consequences, was a mistake, that nearly the whole of the international arrangements which have stimulated the exchange of commodities between the countries of Europe to so great an extent during the last ten years rest upon a rotten foundation, and that the efforts of England should be exerted to arrest the progress of so dangerous a policy by extricating herself as occasion offers from such embarrassing and dangerous engagements.

For the vindication of our recent policy from charges brought against it by a particular school of economists, originally represented by McCulloch in his worst period, the Committee of the Cobden Club refer their readers to the powerful advocacy of "Cobden's Disciple"; but to those who hesitate to accept a principle, unless it is attested by practical success, the following facts may be interesting.

It is well known that the reforms which preceded and followed the Repeal of the Corn Laws, as well as that decisive measure itself, were made without any attempt to secure the co-operation of other countries. This may have been at the time, and under the circumstances, the best policy to pursue; but, at all events, the hope that foreign nations would profit by our experience and follow our example was signally disappointed. During the fifteen years which succeeded the repeal no reductions of any importance were made in the tariffs of Europe; and great as was the impulse given to our export trade by the independent remission of duty upon our imports, the restrictions upon our trade still maintained in foreign countries began, after a time, to be seriously felt. The value of the trade in British exports to the European countries with which treaties have since been concluded, amounted in 1847 (the year after the repeal) to 18,394,000*l.* In 1856 it had advanced to 35,936,000*l.*; in 1859 it had fallen to 32,489,000*l.* It was at this period that Cobden and Chevalier conceived the idea of the Anglo-French Treaty, and the Governments of England and France had the wisdom and the courage to conclude it. The necessary consequence was the conclusion of the fifty or sixty similar treaties, to which reference has already been made, and by which the tariffs of Europe have been reduced by about fifty per cent. In 1868 the value of the British export trade to the same countries attained the amount of 60,739,000*l.*, while the total addition to the trade of England with them in imports and exports was no less than 84,000,000*l.* When it is considered that the effect of this general removal of restrictions upon the foreign trade of France and of other continental countries has been even greater than upon that of England, it is difficult to over-estimate the importance of the impulse thus given to the international intercourse of Europe, both in its material and moral aspects. It must not be forgotten that the acquisition of new markets in Europe is far more essential to our national prosperity than the progress of our trade with distant and half-civilized countries, upon which we have been compelled to rely by the unnatural state of our relations with our nearest neighbours. In a commercial sense, our trade with Europe partakes much more of the nature of a home trade, and gives far more employment to labour by the quicker circulation of capital, the rapidity of exchange,

and the greater variety of its component parts; and, in a political sense, instead of involving heavy costs of supervision, and constant risks of war, tends more than any other agency to relieve our people from the burden of large armaments and excessive taxation by creating a community of material interests which is the surest guarantee of peace.

There is one fallacy, which has been advanced in connexion with the subject of Tariff Treaties, to which it is necessary to advert, namely, that although they may be admissible with a view to the removal of protective taxes, it is contrary to sound policy to enter into international arrangements for the regulation of fiscal duties. This latter position appears on examination to be even less tenable than the former. Fiscal duties on foreign trade are essentially international taxes, and international taxes must in the nature of things be peculiarly and essentially a proper subject for international regulation. It is remarkable that this fallacy should have been advanced and widely adopted in England, a country which has been conspicuous in asserting her claim to a voice in the regulation of fiscal duties in other countries, in the interest of British Trade. On what principle, it may be asked, can our treaties with China and Siam and Japan and Turkey be justified, or even defended, if it is to be a maxim of our national policy that every country should retain exclusive control over her fiscal resources, unless we are prepared to impose on other countries a law by which we refuse ourselves to be bound? But, in truth, this sort of pretension to independence is very idle in such a matter. No country has the power of retaining such exclusive control, even if she aims at doing so. Mr. Mill observes, in his 'Principles of Political Economy,' p. 399,

"All taxes on international trade tend therefore to produce a disturbance and a re-adjustment of what we have termed the equation of international demand."

And goes on to point out, at p. 405, that "It may be laid down as a principle that a tax on imported commodities almost always falls in part on the foreign consumers of the commodities exchanged for them, and that this is a mode in which a nation may appropriate to itself, at the expense of foreigners, a larger share than would otherwise belong to it of the increase in the general productiveness of the labour and capital of the world which results from the interchange of commodities among nations."

And again, at p. 407, "It is evident that conditions of reciprocity which are quite unessential when the matter in debate is a protecting duty are of material importance when the repeal of duties of this description (fiscal duties) is discussed. A country cannot be expected to renounce the power of taxing foreigners unless foreigners in return will practise towards itself the same forbearance."

We find then that the claim to retain exclusive control over import duties as part of our national fiscal resources may amount to a claim to the fiscal resources of other countries; but, fortunately for international morality, any attempt on the part of one country thus to throw upon another a portion of its burdens, would be always liable to counteraction by retaliation on the other side, and would therefore be as useless as it would be unjust.

Let it not be supposed that the doctrine contained in the passage quoted above gives the slightest colour or countenance to the cry for "reciprocity" of that protective

kind which has recently been advocated in some quarters in this country. In the case of protective duties upon foreign imports, any incidental disturbance of the fiscal equilibrium sinks into absolute insignificance by the side of the inevitable loss and injury sustained by the country which maintains them; and even in the case of fiscal duties, to say nothing of their other disadvantages, which will probably more than counterbalance any possible gain from their compensatory operation, it would be necessary, in order to ensure such equilibrium, to undertake the impossible task of striking the balance in an account, not only with one foreign country, but with all the countries with which we trade. It cannot be in the interest of those who desire to maintain or increase our import duties to provoke this inquiry, for in such an audit England would assuredly not appear as a creditor! So long as Governments continue to levy taxes upon their foreign trade, it is impossible to avoid an infringement of the most obvious rules of international equity, or a perpetual war of tariffs and an unseemly scramble between the nations for their share in the revenue derived from international trade, except by common agreement; and if by agreement, in what form can such agreement be recorded and secured unless by a tariff treaty, which is nothing more than an international statute law? There is something peculiarly invidious in the use of the argument against the international regulation of fiscal customs duties, by a country which, owing to an exceptional combination of circumstances, of which it has fully availed itself, is enabled (without raising the question of protection) to levy a larger revenue from foreign trade than any other country in Europe. Our command of distant markets both in the East and West, our maritime supremacy, our foreign possessions, and the treaties which we have not hesitated to make with weaker nations, together with the conditions of our soil and climate, aided now and then by arbitrary legislation, such as the prohibition against the growth of tobacco, have enabled us to raise nearly 20,000,000*l.* customs duties, without even incurring the drawback of corresponding duties of excise. Under such conditions as these, which no other country can command, the mere renunciation of protection is not enough to secure for England the moral influence which she might otherwise exert, as the representative of free exchange.

By the commercial reforms already accomplished, the English nation has made a splendid contribution to the wealth of nations. It is called on now to give proofs of a more advanced science, and a higher morality, by a generous recognition of the claims and necessities of other countries in attempting similar reforms, and by a cordial co-operation in the great international work of liberating trade, which alone can impart new and lasting vigour to the national life, and afford a hope of real progress for the human race.

Souvenirs Intimes sur M. de Talleyrand.
Recueillis par Amédée Pichot. (Paris, Dentu.)

THE world is not likely to tire of a theme which, like the kaleidoscope, if always the same as to matter, is never twice alike. Anecdotes of M. de Talleyrand are of such variety

as not to grow stale, and they are told in so many different ways that the oldest of them, polished, varnished and vamped up, come out as good as new. M. Pichot has collected them all into a single volume. He has given them a chronological arrangement, and we shall perhaps best describe his book to English readers by stating that it reminds us of the best of the anecdotal volumes put together by Mr. Timbs.

We are not going into the old story. We prefer, at least, to take a new view of it, and to show that Talleyrand had not, invariably, the wit and sarcasm on his own side. It is strange that a man like Talleyrand, of whom it was said that if he were ignobly kicked while you were speaking to him, you would never be able to detect it by any change in the expression of his face, could not take a hard word from Sieyès without wincing. The married ex-Bishop of Autun having asked Sieyès to appoint to a post in an educational department a person in whom Talleyrand was interested:—"What are you thinking of?" said Sieyès; "the thing is impossible. Why, the man is a married priest." There was less wit, if more force, in what De Launay once remarked to the club-footed statesman in 1791:—"If your father could have foreseen all your fine doings, he would have made your arms like your feet." On the other hand, the epigrammatists assailed him with still less gentleness. As a sample, we may quote the lines that have been attributed to Chénier:—

Roquette, dans son temps,
Talleyrand, dans le nôtre,
Furent tous deux à l'évêché d'Autun.
Tartuffe est le portrait de l'un.
Ah! si Molière eût connu l'autre!

Sieyès could give Talleyrand thrust for thrust; but Fouché was less happy, for he hated the man too blindly. The best thing Fouché said was when Talleyrand was nominated Vice Grand Elector of the Empire:—"In the general number it will hardly be seen. It is only one Vice the more." This was not wit of the first water, nor was that of the patriotic Rostopchine, who saved Russia by burning the French out of Moscow. When the Muscovite arrived in Paris, he gave out that he had come to see the two greatest low-comedians in the world—Potier and Talleyrand. The mistake here was, that neither of the two was a *farceur*, but each was an accomplished actor in any department of his art. Never did Talleyrand display his proficiency more than when he had to take share in deeds for which it was impossible to attach any responsibility to him. "He had," said M. Sainte-Beuve, "the art, whenever it was wanted, of ignoring everything." There is eulogy as well as censure in this, and there is a little of both in the remark of the positive Carnot:—"Talleyrand despises mankind, because he has profoundly studied himself." This profound study, however, led him, in great part, to his wonderful good fortune. After Talleyrand's fall, when Richelieu was Minister,—that Russified Duke, who was described by Talleyrand as fit to rule France because he knew all about the Crimea,—Talleyrand suddenly rose into greater favour than ever; a circumstance which caused Madame de Staël to remark—"That dear Maurice! He is like one of the figures given to children. There is cork in the head and lead in the legs. It's no use knock-

ing them over. They can't help getting on their feet again!" If this had been spoken in the hearing of him whom it illustrated there would have been nothing offensive in it. It was otherwise with a remark of "Bobus Smith," in reply to his brother Sidney, who, at a table where Talleyrand was present, expressed a wish that when "Bobus" was Lord Chancellor, he would make Sidney a bishop. "I will," said Bobus, "after I have made you commit every baseness of which a priest is capable." The ex-bishop only observed, "Mais quelle latitude énorme!" It may be taken in some cases that assailants of Talleyrand wished to wound without being suspected of *malice prepense*. The poor old Prince de Condé was not quite such an oblivious imbecile as he appeared to be. Soon after the Restoration, when he received the French nobility with a certainly affected ignorance of them if they had changed their "style" since the Revolution, Talleyrand was at one of his levees, but was announced by his ancient family designation of De Perigord. The Bourbon Prince expressed his delight to see a member of such an ancient house; but he could not feel, he said, the same gratification at receiving every one who was presented to him. "For example," he added, "I trust that rascal Talleyrand will never enter my house." "I don't think he ever will," rejoined Talleyrand, turning on his heel and taking his departure. One of his enemies said,—when Talleyrand remarked that the cheese of Brie was the king of cheeses; that it had been so in his youth and continued to be so in his mature years,—"It is the only royalty to which he was ever faithful." "Because," added another wit, "M. de Talleyrand had never sworn to be faithful to that royalty." A third utterer of smart things compared Talleyrand's oaths to checks given at the playhouse whereby the holders get re-admission. Some such spirit is responsible for describing the Provisional Government of 1814 as M. de Talleyrand's Whist Party!

Perhaps the smartest things, bearing against the man who said that it was his fate to bring ill-luck to any Government that neglected him, were uttered by one of the best natured of men, Royer Collard. Talleyrand, having resolved to give a dinner at which every guest should be a representative man in his special way, invited, among others, Cuvier to represent Science; Gerard, as the representative of Painting; and Royer Collard, as that of Political Eloquence. M. Royer Collard, however, declined; slyly congratulating himself at the same time at having been elevated to the dignity of a Sample! This gentleman was "in at the death" of the old but gallant fox. The story of this *finale* reminds one of that of the dying St. Evremont, who expressed an earnest wish that he could be reconciled. His friends asked, in surprise, if he meant—to the Church. "No, no!" said the philosopher, "I mean to my stomach!" Talleyrand declined to sign his retraction of all he had done, said or thought against the Church (which, after all, he said, amounted to nothing) till it was almost too late; and he went through the formality then only to spare his kindred from any annoyances after his death. Even then, it was brought about by a young abbé who took care of the conscience of the Duchess of Dino, Talleyrand's niece and companion. The highest and most significant compliment Royer Collard could pay to the young ecclesiastic was, "M. l'Abbé,

vous êtes un prêtre!" The forecast in these words has been well realized. The Abbé Dupanloup became that Bishop of Orleans who compared Louis Napoleon to Pontius Pilate, and is the champion of the Gallican Church at the Œcumenical Council. Probably, M. Royer had a clearer knowledge of the condition of Talleyrand, when dying, than any other man; but he was reserved on this serious matter. Only, one day, speaking of the Bishop of Blois (De Saurin) Royer remarked, "The term 'venerable' seems to have been made for him. He is, perhaps, the only being to whom I would venture to tell all I think concerning the death of M. de Talleyrand."

With this taste of the quality of this volume we make it over to our readers. They will regret, however, to find in it an extract from George Sand which keeps alive a scandal by protesting against the idea of there being any truth in it.

An Examination of the Utilitarian Philosophy.
By the late John Grote, B.D. Edited by J. B. Mayor, M.A. (Cambridge, Deighton, Bell & Co.)

THE editor of this book states in his Preface that Prof. Grote had printed some portion of it seven years ago, but subsequently relinquished the idea of publishing it, apparently from a conviction that philosophical controversy is not a very satisfactory or instructive study, and "with the design of putting together, in an uncontroversial form, what seemed to him to be the truth." It was a doubtful kindness on the part of his literary executor to reverse this decision, and to give to the public in its present form what the good sense and modesty of the writer had thought it better to suppress. We do not say this in any depreciation of the book; but there are so many signs of its not being ready for publication,—it is so obviously incomplete both as regards matter and arrangement,—that its appearance seems to be scarcely fair to the author's posthumous reputation. A comparison of the earlier and later chapters confirms this opinion: those which had been sent to press by Prof. Grote in 1863 are excellent both in substance and form; they are clear, forcible and convincing; but the later portion, which would, without doubt, have been condensed and rewritten before being published, is generally diffuse, sometimes very obscure, and wanders occasionally not a little from the subject in hand. The editor has himself been, to a certain extent, conscious of the imperfect condition of the MS.: he has transferred some portions of it to an earlier position in the book, where we must confess that they are rather out of place, and has inserted here and there explanatory paragraphs, or notes intended to account for some abrupt change of subject. Two other peculiarities mark these later chapters: a continual employment of italics has been found necessary, in order to bring into prominence the important words of a sentence;—sometimes seven or eight are thus emphasized on a single page: and a number of words, extraordinary and unintelligible, are coined, to express the meaning which it is wished to convey. We do not quarrel with "felicific," "hedonics" or "intuitivism," but there is something very unnecessarily barbarous about "revolutionariness," "boundness," "bindingness," "irresist-

ibleness," "inconclusivism." In fact, the faults of style are such that the editor considers it necessary to apologize for them, and attempts to excuse them by a comparison between the diction of Prof. Grote and Jeremy Bentham.

The reader will find, in the first hundred pages of the book, a great deal that is valuable both in the form of criticism and original suggestion. Even if Mr. Mill is sometimes a little misunderstood, this is an inseparable accident of all controversy, especially in philosophy, where it is almost impossible for one man so thoroughly to enter into the mind of another as always to comprehend his meaning. But, as a rule, the criticism is a thoroughly appreciative one; and though its author differs *toto cælo* from the doctrines which he criticizes, yet he is always ready generously to acknowledge and point out the good points of his adversary. Again and again he alludes to Mr. Mill's "complete and beautiful description" of the theory of social morality, and speaks of his remarks as "full of interest, true feeling, and happy expression." Nor does he attack Mr. Mill's utilitarianism as absolutely false, but rather as one-sided, inconsistent with utilitarianism proper, and introducing elements which are really derived from idealism: for instance, Mr. Mill draws a distinction between the quantity and the quality of pleasures; alleging that they differ in kind, as well as in intensity and duration. To this Prof. Grote objects that it is a doctrine impossible to the school of utility.—

"A consistent utilitarian can scarcely hold the difference of *quality* in pleasures in *any* sense; for if they differ otherwise than in what, speaking largely, may be called *quantity*, they are not mutually comparable, and in determining as to the preferability of one pleasure to another, we must then be guided by some considerations not contained in the idea or experience of the pleasure itself. But all epicurean utilitarianism must rest on the idea that pleasures are mutually comparable, and that it is the greater pleasure which must determine our action."

At the same time, this idea of weighing pleasures one against another, and giving so many marks to physical enjoyment, so many to intellectual cultivation, and so many to religious emotion, is one of no practical value whatever, and is possible only in theory:—

"As a matter of fact, we do not look upon pleasures as independent things to be thus compared with each other, but as interwoven with the rest of life, as having their history and their reasons, as involving different kinds of enjoyment in such a manner that our being able to enter into one kind is accompanied with a horror of another kind, which would entirely prevent the comparison of the one with the other as pleasures. Besides this, it must be remembered that, in the interval between the one pleasure and the other, the mind itself is changed. You have no permanent touchstone, no currency to be the medium of the comparison. Supposing a man whose youth has been grossly vicious, whose mature age is most deeply devout: according to disposition, the view as to past life in this case will probably much differ; but most commonly, I think, the man will wonder that he was able to find pleasure at all in what he once found pleasure in. Earnestness in the later frame of mind, whatever it is, would only preclude the possibility of a cool comparison of it, as to pleasure, with the earlier one."

This is a very clear statement of the objection which cuts at the root of utilitarianism, and which Mr. Mill only partially avoids by this distinction of pleasures in respect of kind, and then only at the cost of adopting the theory

of the idealism which he wishes to abolish; for to speak of higher and lower pleasures according as they result from our higher or lower faculties implies a natural, original and *a priori* distinction between the various parts of our nature, which must exist altogether apart from experience and observation, and cannot be based upon them.

Another charge which is brought in these pages against Mr. Mill's utilitarianism is, that it attempts to infuse into the ordinary doctrine of the greatest happiness of the greatest number an unselfish element which is foreign to it altogether. Mr. Mill's theory seems to be that you ought to consult equally, and to the same amount, the happiness of yourself and of all concerned (whatever that may mean). To this Prof. Grote objects, that on strictly utilitarian principles the virtuous action is that which produces the greatest amount of happiness, whether that happiness be confined to one or distributed over a large number, and that, consequently, a man might be acting most virtuously who simply consulted his own satisfaction and disregarded that of all around, if thereby he believed he could do the most to increase the general stock of happiness in the world. We think Mr. Mill might answer that this is to suppose an impossible case, or that, at all events, the opinion of a man so immoral would be absolutely worthless.

The latter part of the book deals more with Utilitarianism generally than with the special form of it which is upheld by Mr. Mill. There is also in it a good deal that is constructive, though it is not very easy to see what the system is which it is intended to build up. We read some chapters through again and again, and must confess ourselves unable to grasp the idea which pervades them. They seem rather to consist of a number of philosophical reflections thrown together without much care, than to develop a definite and consistent theory. This is especially the case with the chapters on, 'The Real Goodness of Virtue,' and on 'The Requisites of Moral Philosophy at the Present Time.' But all this would probably have been avoided if the book had been published during the lifetime of the author.

In the course of his remarks on Human Progress, Prof. Grote has occasion to allude to the positivist doctrines respecting it. Like most Englishmen, he condemns M. Comte's theory without a very thorough appreciation of his philosophy. In discussing the real meaning of Progress, he says—

"When M. Comte tells us that *because* the world as a matter of fact (as he thinks) has proceeded through various other stages of thought until it has come to positivism, we ought *therefore* to be positivists and help on positivism. I wish to understand the 'because' and the 'therefore,' or, as logicians would say, to know the major premise of the syllogism. Why may not the departure of the old theological and metaphysical ideas have been a loss to human nature, and our best duty be to try to bring them back? M. Comte, pretending to go on *fact* only and assume nothing, does assume what comes last is best."

This is scarcely a fair statement of the positivist theory. We imagine that M. Comte would answer to the above objection, that the universal tendency of men as their knowledge increases is to throw off certain other conceptions in favour of positivism. And if he were to be asked why we ought to trust men of wide knowledge more than others, he would

answer that it is a fact of human nature that we do, one and all, believe that knowledge, and not ignorance, gives value to opinion. The major premiss then for which Prof. Grote inquires would be, "Those who are more perfectly informed on any subject are known by actual experience to be more worthy of confidence on that subject than those who are less perfectly informed."

The real weakness of utilitarianism is, that it regards happiness, as Prof. Grote well remarks, as a separate "entity," forgetting that it bears a relation to character and circumstances which makes it impossible to form any comparative estimate of its amount as it exists in different men, or even in the same man at different periods of his life. For this reason it is compelled to fall back, sooner or later, on some form or other of idealism: and this is just what we should expect, if we remember that it puts forward as primary what is really only secondary and derivative. In the unselfish doctrine which is set forth by Mr. Mill it is perhaps the philosophical expression of that love of a practical life of so-called usefulness which is a peculiarity of the English character. This seems to be the conclusion which legitimately follows from a theory which makes the greatest happiness of the greatest number the immediate end of our every action. We welcome any book which tends to bring us back to a more sound and healthy view of the end of life, and if we have to regret that Mr. Mayor found in an unfinished state the pages which he has so carefully edited, we ought to be grateful to him for putting into the hands of the student of philosophy a book which is so full of suggestive and interesting matter.

Sketches of Modern Paris. By A. Ebeling. Translated from the German by Frances Locock. (Bentley.)

For some years past there have appeared in one of the Cologne papers a series of "Feuilleton" articles on Paris and Parisian life. Written in a style so lucid, pure and concise, that they came to be looked upon as models of that sort of composition, they treated every subject that came to the surface of Parisian gossip, handled by one who knew when to leave off, and when allusions to religious, political or national questions became dangerous. The writer was evidently a man of culture, a keen observer of men and manners,—a German to the backbone, with a slight bias towards Austria,—a man accustomed to think for himself, and to creep into every hole and corner where anything of interest to his ever-widening circle of readers was likely to be found.

All this time the author's name had not transpired, and conjectures of all kinds respecting it were freely indulged in; until at last, when the author's book on the Paris Exhibition came out, public curiosity, kept on the stretch for so many years, was gratified by learning that it was Dr. Adolf Ebeling—the same who, when a young man, made a voyage to the Brazils, and afterwards an honourable start as a public writer, by opening with his pen the doors of a madhouse to a person confined there by interested kinsmen of high position.

Miss Locock has undertaken to select some of the best of Dr. Ebeling's articles and introduce them to us in an English dress. This was

by no means an easy task. The author, let it be remembered, does not profess to address any other public than that of Germany; and many of his descriptions relate to subjects which, however singular to those not used to the bustle of great cities, are thoroughly familiar to those accustomed to the even more gigantic dimensions many things treated by him assume in English life. The specimen now placed before us does not contain one hundredth part of what might with propriety have been selected for the English market; but it is evidently intended merely as a feeler. If the public approve of the introduction, which we think they will, additional stories will doubtless be forthcoming from the same source.

These sketches are truthful and lifelike, but in order not to be misunderstood, we should couple our remark with the explanation that this desire of conveying correct impressions of what the writer heard and saw, does not lead him to bring forward those subjects so often and unnecessarily dwelt upon by delineators of modern French society, which are much better left unnoticed. Dr. Ebeling does not profess to describe all Paris, but he picks his subjects, and handles them in a way that even the most fastidious cannot object to. A healthy moral tone pervades the whole, and if the author was less skilful than he is, he would here and there have been in danger of lapsing into the style adopted in our "goody books"; but there is no doubt that this feature has been one of the chief means of securing his popularity. The world has been over-fed with accounts of Traviatas and their victims, and likes to learn that in modern Paris there is often as much that is pure and lovable as there may be much that is corrupt and despicable. The book opens with an article on Violets,—a good specimen of the author's manner and style. He commences, generally, with a description of a subject, and gradually slides into an interesting anecdote illustrative of it. Thus the little violets become the pegs on which to hang important political and historical details. The violet is the Napoleonic flower *par excellence*, in contrast to the Bourbon lily. By means of it the Princess Eugénie conveyed the first intimation that the attentions of her present husband were acceptable, appearing as she did one evening in an exquisite "violet toilette," if the expression be admissible: violets in her hair, violet loopings to her dress, and the historical significant bouquet of violets in her hand. This language of flowers was rightly translated—the princess had accepted the offer of marriage. The origin of the Napoleonic violet-worship dates from the days of the Consulate. Joséphine had asked her husband to bring her on her name-day "only a bouquet of violets,"—a request which he succeeded in fulfilling by an accident. But from that circumstance dated Napoleon's love for the flower. He cultivated them even at St. Helena: violets, little violets, were planted around the tomb of the poor heart-broken Joséphine; and when the great conqueror's coffin reached Cherbourg it was, in a few minutes, covered with violets. L. Napoleon, when picking his way to the throne of his uncle, was more than once made aware of the real sentiments of people by their exhibition of the traditional flower of his family. But there are articles of a different complexion. The next

introduces us to a "Ball at the Tuileries"; we then pass on to "Fontainebleau," with its many historical reminiscences; then we have a lot of "Droll Stories," an account of "Parisian Celebrities," "The Parisian Flower Market," &c. In other articles we are introduced to the "Lapin Blanc," the notorious inn in that part of the Cité where Eugène Sue, not without reason, laid the most terrible scenes of his 'Mysteries of Paris'; "Timothée Trim and his Writings" receive due attention and praise; the doings of the King and Queen of Portugal in Paris are carefully chronicled, and descriptions, reflections, and anecdotes about Christmas and New Year's Day appropriately conclude the volume.

History of the Irish Brigades in the Service of France: From the Revolution in Great Britain and Ireland, under James II., to the Revolution in France, under Louis XVI. By John Cornelius O'Callaghan. (Glasgow, Cameron & Ferguson.)

THE world was just beginning to forget the massacre of Protestants in France on the day of St. Bartholomew; Lutheran and Calvinistic antiquaries had learnt to look with cold curiosity on the medals struck to commemorate it; and travellers gazed with travelled indifference on the great picture in the Vatican, which gave the counterfeit presentment of what was there considered a righteous deed, when all that was humane in that world was appalled by the revocation of the Edict of Nantes, in 1685. After that date, in France, no man, nor, for that matter, woman or child of a certain age, could profess the reformed religion without his life being forfeit to the law, if the law chose to claim the sacrifice. This was but too well remembered by the Ascendancy party in Ireland, after the treaty of Limerick had surrendered the sovereignty of that country to Great Britain. The presence in William's army of Ruvigny and his Huguenot comrades, exiles from France because of their Protestantism, fanned the fire of execration with which the triumphant faction regarded all Papists. When Sarsfield carried off with him from Limerick the thousands of Irish soldiers who were added to the armies of France, the logical consequences of that event were not seen by more than a few reflective men. Those thousands, with their successors, formed the "Irish Brigades," of which Mr. O'Callaghan is the ponderous and voluminous historian. He has been, we believe, a quarter of a century engaged on this work. He gave a sample of it to the public in 1854, of which the *Athenæum* (No. 1411) spoke with respect, adding words of counsel which the author, "*ut solent auctores*," has altogether disregarded; and he now concludes his labours with an expressed hope of his having done something that the world "will not willingly let die."

The revocation of the Edict of Nantes, the Revolution, and the expatriation of the Irish Jacobite troops, led to very curious results on many a field. Ruvigny, a Frenchman, led English troops against the Duke of Berwick, an Englishman, commanding French forces. Cavalier, a French Protestant, in the Dutch service, led his French Huguenot regiments against French Catholic soldiers, and the collision was all the more terrible for the exasperating religious element in it. On one occasion the

conquered English might have said, by way of consolation, that they were commanded by a Frenchman and beaten by an Englishman. Finally, in reference to Laffeldt, where Ligonier saved the Duke of Cumberland from being captured, but was himself taken, the author remarks that — "While the Irish Catholic exiles of the brigade were fighting against George the Second, of whose dominions they were natives, and yet whose son they were endeavouring here to make prisoner, the brave General Sir John Ligonier, to whose chivalrous interposition the safety of that son is attributed, was a Huguenot, or natural subject of Louis the Fourteenth, against whom, nevertheless, he was fighting, because, as disqualified by intolerant legislation to fight on the side of France, as the Irish Catholic of the brigade was, by similar persecutions, incapacitated to fight on the side of England."

The three earliest established regiments in the French service consisted of the three corps of Mountcashel, O'Brien, and Dillon. To these were added the remains of James the Second's army, which went over to France after the treaty of Limerick; they and their descendants were afterwards to be found in every field of battle in France, Italy, Flanders, Germany, and the Spanish Peninsula. The peace of Aix-la-Chapelle, in 1748, closed the most brilliant era in the career of the brigade. It lasted, however, nearly another half-century, during a portion of which time the Irish Count Lally commanded for France in the East Indies, and was judicially murdered for his services after his return. Very few things that the French Revolution touched survived the shock; among others, the Irish brigade was shattered, and some of its commanders perished on the scaffold. This national force, rendering service to another nation, has long been in need of a capable historian; we wish we could say it had found one in Mr. O'Callaghan. He has industry, perseverance, goodwill, and great scholarship. We respect all the evidences of these qualities; but with all that, he has written as unreadable a book as ever fell in our way.

All the author's heroes are demi-gods; individually and generally, they are the most "faultless monsters." He admits, by a soft euphemism, the "irregular amours" of Count Arthur Dillon, but it seems that such conjugal infidelity did not prevent his being a "fond husband and affectionate father." The author's countrymen are, of course, wise and docile; but nevertheless he shows how their power was nullified, "through their insane and sanguinary divisions for supremacy." Mr. O'Callaghan treats of ancient tribes, as well as of modern brigades; indeed, it would be hard to say where his history does not begin or end. We are taken to the cloud-time of the past, and plunged into mists of a foretold future. We have, besides mountain-heaps of facts, miles of meandering narrative of what would have been so, if it had not been otherwise. We are carried away from the Irish Brigade to Herodotus; we are one minute in the midst of details anent the Pretender; in the next deep in the subject of Agricola and fabled Caledonia. Everything under the sun is made *à propos* to the Brigade. When the author *revient à ses moutons*, it is only for a moment. Another *à propos des bêtes* takes him off, and us with him, into the Eternal Abysses; and when we

once more come back to the Brigade, we have lost all consciousness of its connexion with anything of which we have been reading. If Mrs. Nickleby had written history, she would have done it in the style of Mr. O'Callaghan.

This is to be regretted, for the author wants nothing but to know how to use his overwhelming materials. He is perhaps better acquainted with his subject than any other living man; he is only pleasantly partial; he means to be fair and honest; he strives not to be dreary; he would be an historian if he could; but the possession of countless materials no more makes one than the possession of stone, marble, bricks, timber, instruments, and tools makes an architect. Only the most enthusiastic of "brigadiers" could, we suppose, get through this volume from beginning to end. Its compilation is a wonderful feat, but we wish it had been impossible. It reminds us of the gentleman who, four or five years ago, recited from memory the whole of Milton's 'Paradise Lost,' to such public as he could gather into St. Martin's Hall. They were select, though few; and of the three who stood it out to the end, two permanently lost the scanty wits which led them to become listeners. We do not apprehend such fate for Mr. O'Callaghan's readers, because they may take the dose in small portions. Even then, they will have to use caution, and take periodical rest.

Still, the book has, here and there, a bright touch or two, and these tend to illustrate the author's humour. He naturally adopts the Romanist view of the cause of William of Orange, which, according to that view, was served by the winds, but was not helped by heaven! The celestial way, indeed, occasionally perplexes Mr. O'Callaghan's simple-mindedness. He remembers a convent in Belgium, which was once composed exclusively of Irish nuns; now there are none of those ladies there; and surely, thinks Mr. O'Callaghan, somewhat daringly, this is by a "strange permission of Providence." Indeed, we are led to believe that if the Irish Brigade had been allowed everywhere to have its own way, a great deal of trouble would have been taken out of the hands that are commonly supposed to guide this world as well as the universe. The officers and men of the Irish Brigade were brave and gallant fellows; it was an honour to beat them; it was no humiliation to be beaten by them; but they were not better than the brave and gallant fellows in other armies. We do not believe, even if the doughty Macdonnell took Villeroy with his own hand, that there was such superhuman virtue in him as to enable his father to live upon it till he was 118 years of age! We do not believe that Marlborough would have been defeated at Blenheim, "if every regiment in the French army had behaved that day like the Irish." Every regiment did its duty, and no reproach can be flung at the vanquished. Mr. O'Callaghan casts it at the victor. The Duke of Marlborough, he thinks, was "not so great after all." Well, this is a free country, and the historian of the Irish Brigades has not only a right to his thoughts, but to that of giving them expression. This he does without any reserve. He does not, for example, wish to deny that Marlborough won Oudenarde, but he thinks, nay, on this occasion he is quite sure, that "had Vendôme's judgment been permitted to direct the movements of the French

army, it is *certain* that the French would not have been defeated at Oudenarde." Again, if there was ever a battle in the world in which the vanquished reaped equal glory with the victors, it was at Fontenoy. The steady advance of Cumberland's column of infantry, till masses of fresh troops and artillery assailed it on all sides; the equally steady retreat, each man with antique valour making the cause his own, was a feat in arms such as the world rarely sees. Mr. O'Callaghan does not dispute the fact; but he would clearly have us believe that the repulse of that shattered column of heroes was owing entirely to the Irish. His account of the battle reminds us of those pictures of the Crimean War which were to be seen in the print-shops of various nations. In England, the Russians seemed to have only English to contend with. On the Boulevards you saw nobody at the Alma or Inkermann but French and Russians, while the pictorial illustrations at Turin taught the beholders that the whole thing was managed and brought to victorious issue by the Sardinians. We refer Mr. O'Callaghan to Barbier's notes on Fontenoy, the glory of which day is there given to the French household troops, exclusively, and quite as unjustly. It is in much the same spirit that Mr. O'Callaghan denies that at Laffeldt the Brigade lost even a colour. "The Irish," he says, "are reported to have lost a standard: we have no better authority indeed than a hostile or English and Anglo-Irish assertion." We close Mr. O'Callaghan's book with regret that he has failed to take advantage of a great opportunity, but with praise for the earnestness with which he made the attempt.

Eusebii Pamphili Scripta Historica. Tomi III. Edidit F. A. Heinichen. (Nutt.)

THE first edition of Eusebius's ecclesiastical history by Heinichen appeared in three volumes at Leipzig, in the years 1827, 1828; a supplement of notes in 1840. After an interval of more than twenty years, the same scholar issues this new edition, enlarged and improved. The first volume, dated 1868, resembles the corresponding one of the old edition in containing Heinichen's own dissertation on the MSS., editions, and versions of Eusebius; Valesius's *diatribe* on the historian's life and writings; and the Greek text of the work. It differs from the former in transferring Gersdorf's epistle from the beginning of the second volume to that of the first; in omitting the testimonies of ancient and modern writers for and against Eusebius; and in putting the entire text of the history into one volume. The four indices attached to the third volume of the old edition are appended to the first of the new, because it contains all the ten books. The second volume of this new edition, dated 1869, contains Eusebius's Life of Constantine and his panegyric, with the Emperor's address to the assembly of the saints. Four indices also accompany this volume. The third volume, dated 1870, consists of copious commentaries on the preceding works, and twenty-nine Meletemata. It is, therefore, mainly exegetical. The critical annotations are now placed under the Greek text; so that the two departments, the exegetical and critical, are separated.

Since his former edition Heinichen has had the benefit of others by Burton, Schwieger, and Laemmer, of which the last two are valu-

able and important. The death of Prof. Burton prevented his work from being all that he intended.

An examination of the new edition before us abundantly attests its excellence; it is far superior to the last in accuracy, fullness and scholarship. The veteran editor has not neglected the copious literature connected with Eusebius, but is familiar with the dissertations, articles and works which have appeared since the years 1827, 1828. The reader is rarely disappointed in finding annotations or notes explanatory of the historian's work.

This edition must be pronounced the best. No student of ecclesiastical history can dispense with it. The richest materials are collected, and the views of preceding scholars presented in an available form. It is a storehouse of opinions. As far as we can see, Heinichen himself is not a critic on whose judgment we should be inclined to set a high value. Several of his annotations seem feeble and incorrect. Sometimes he is unduly influenced by Tischendorf's pamphlet, 'Wann wurden unsere Evangelien verfasst,' as in vol. iii. pp. 114, 115. Sometimes he is unsatisfactory in not giving the precise point and significance of the words employed by the history, as in his note on Lib. v. 23, 1, where the subject is exceedingly difficult and all-important. He is an industrious, careful editor, rather than a superior critic; but his work will not be easily superseded. He has laboured with success in the field he once entered with juvenile ardour. We commend this new edition as the most useful of all. Whoever wishes to study the father of ecclesiastical history will find it indispensable. It will point him to the literature of the subjects touched upon by Eusebius, where he may pursue the investigations of distinguished scholars. As to the value of the history, this is not the place to speak of it particularly. Eusebius's judgment could not be great when he had no doubts about the authenticity of Abgar's correspondence with Christ. When, therefore, we find him one of the main authorities for our belief in the authenticity of the Gospels, the idea suggests itself whether internal be not a more reliable basis than external evidence; or the authenticity of writings be not a question of less importance than their inherent value. The self-evidencing power of Christianity should not be lost sight of amid the conflicts of critics over the nature and credibility of the external witnesses usually summoned on behalf of the earliest records of that religion.

The Ocean Telegraph to India: a Narrative and a Diary. By J. C. Parkinson. (Blackwood & Sons.)

THE Great Eastern was steaming up the Channel at the very time that this account of the enterprise from which she was returning was being published by the Messrs. Blackwood; and the first entry in Mr. Parkinson's diary, dated "Byculla Club, Bombay, 26th January, 1870," is—"Returned to Bombay after a tour in the interior of India of nearly 5,000 miles . . . thanks to the railways . . . run rapidly through." Great and hazardous, therefore, as is the undertaking of laying ocean telegraphic cables, the world has been prepared for them, and failure itself could not dis-

appoint the certain hopes hence formed of their success. It was proposed to lay a telegraphic cable between Bombay and Suez, and Mr. Parkinson first takes a preliminary survey, over 5,000 miles of country, of the land lines in India to which it was to be joined, and starting from Bombay with the cable on board the Great Eastern in February last, publishes—three months after—a full account of how the work was accomplished, on the very day that the Great Eastern was signalled, at home again, off the Needles. And the great significance of the work accomplished was at the same time remarkably shown by the telegram announcing that quiet was restored in Rajpootana, which reached London from Simla, not in the difference of time between the two longitudes, but in three hours and more before it was sent! It is strange that any obstacles should have been thrown in the way of such an undertaking by the India Office, but Mr. Parkinson writes under "Feb. 1st. Called with Capt. Halpin upon Sir Seymour Fitzgerald, the Governor of Bombay, whom we found full of interest in the expedition. 'I have good reason to be gratified,' said his Excellency, pleasantly, on our introduction, 'at the prospect of direct submarine telegraphic communication between Suez and Bombay, for it so happens that the very first despatch I wrote to the Home Government, after taking my seat here, was to urge the necessity of such a line as the British-Indian Telegraph Company is about to establish.' It was not for us to express surprise at Sir Seymour Fitzgerald's views not being adopted."

Mr. Parkinson has a great deal to say of the past history and present condition of Bombay, and grows almost as enthusiastic over its future destinies as he is throughout the volume about the cable itself. A narrow little island, scarcely a mile broad, and not twelve miles long, and formed by the deposit of silt between a few trapezoid rocks, as is made clear every year during the rains, when "the Flats" are all under water again, and the island once more is a little archipelago of Isles of Palms; yet because of the harbour lying between it and the mountainous coast opposite, almost the only good harbour in the East, and lying in the forefront of India, the city which has risen on it, from a fisherman's village, during the last three hundred years, like an exhalation from the sea, has already become the second in the world for its commerce, and in political importance the first city in the East. From thence we have levied war in Egypt, Persia, Burmah, China, and Abyssinia; from thence we overcame the great Sepoy mutiny of 1857, and from thence shall we speedily have to rule all India, and already it is virtually the capital, although Calcutta still grasps the title. The low level on which the city is built is well illustrated by the wrecks in Back Bay, to which Mr. Parkinson constantly refers. If one's right arm be laid on a table, with the thumb stretched away from the hand, from the elbow to the nails it will represent the Island of Bombay lying from N. to S. The thumb will represent Malabar Hill—the suburban residence of the rich—the hand the city; between it and the thumb lies Back Bay; beyond it is the harbour, the thousand masts of which rise far above the city. No wonder if in foul weather the masts only are seen above the fog which conceals the town, and

ships run right into Back Bay, instead of the harbour, and are there hopelessly stranded. In the case of the American ship *Fruiterer*, it was almost a dead calm when she ran into Back Bay. It was at sunrise of a serene morning, just when the fishing boats make out of Back Bay like a flight of cranes. The city was completely hid in the low-lying morning mist, above which stood the masts of the harbour, brightly tipped by the slanting rays of the sun and thus led on, the *Fruiterer*, with sails full set, and all her flags flying, swept gracefully and slowly towards certain shipwreck—as it seemed. But she was saved by Mr. Corke, the Assistant Master-Attendant of Bombay Harbour, who is mentioned several times in this book, and with especial honour for his prompt rescue of the *Fruiterer*, an exploit for which he will always be famous in the chronicle of Bombay.

Mr. Parkinson has well described the present tone of Bombay, which is the result of the great commercial crisis through which it passed in 1864-65.—

"7th Feb. . . . The morning is lovely. The sun has not gained the fierceness which will make us shrink beneath awnings later in the day; there is a brisk freshness, a crisp vitality about the atmosphere which suggests active exercise, and makes one long for a good four-miles-an-hour walk on a country road. The Ghauts, or inland mountains, which form one side of Bombay harbour, stand out so clearly that the shape of the lofty palm-trees with which they are covered can be traced at a distance of three miles, whilst their undulating summits form a sharp line against the bright sky, and the slender strip of yellow sand forming a thin coast-line, looks like a tasteful ornament—a trimming supplied designedly by nature to make her picture complete. The sea is calm, but not perfectly smooth. Short ripples eddy and curl over its surface, and the sunshine makes even the pale Nile-like brown of the muddy waters of the harbour beautiful. The Great Eastern is, out of deference to her draught, so far outside the rest of the shipping, that there is on one side nothing but water between her and the hills, which close in the harbour like an artificial scene; while on the other every vessel in Bombay is seen stretched in a mighty line, and as if arranged expressly to show the capabilities of the port. There they lay motionless and at peace, after heaven knows how much tossing and anxiety, with their lofty spars and rigging intermingled in the morning sun,—a mighty fleet at rest. There could not have been less than three miles of shipping in front of the houses of Bombay. . . . A white mist hangs over the spires, mansions and cotton warehouses of the city beyond, but as this rises, the latter resumes the air of thriving prosperity which, in spite of the commercial and official wailings to be heard on every side, is the prominent characteristic of Bombay. 'No one has any money; there is but little business stirring. Ah, Sir, you should have seen us in 1864!' is the kind of remark a stranger meets with who comments on the many practical evidences of mercantile and municipal activity to be met with here. It pleases Bombay to be wearing financial mourning. Quite a relishing emphasis is sometimes laid upon the over-speculation which preceded the panic, and the collapse from which Bombay has not yet rallied; but it seems all the time to an outsider as if the city were not unwilling to prolong its regrets, even after their cause has been removed or modified. It is not an uncommon case. The first anguish over the mourning is made with an eye to fashion, and the enjoyments and the conveniences of life are appreciated as much as ever. At the same time the dignity attached to suffering is not to be lightly given up; and to compliment Bombay on its prosperous air—to point to its many new buildings, its new market, its new streets as leading up to comfortable con-

victions of its present wealth—is to wound its susceptibilities deeply.”

The fact is, that the panic did not touch the commerce and real wealth of Bombay. Its population, besides Hindoos, Mussulmans, Parsees and Europeans, consists of Jews, Arabs, Persians, Tartars, Chinese, Malays, and Sidis or Habshis, —representatives, indeed, of all the trading nations of Asia and East Africa. But the great trade of Bombay with the East is in the hands of the Bhatias and Banians of Goozerat, Kutch and Kattyawar, and the Mehman, Bohora and Khojah Mussulman sects. These races of Hindoos and Mussulman sects are born pedlars, shopkeepers and traders, and, as a rule, have not an idea above trade,—a coasting trade, chiefly in “notions.” And just as the Hindoo ryot, whose interests are restricted to his own holding and his village, sees conqueror after conqueror sweep by, and remains a mere spectator; and as the fate of India has always been decided by armies in the field without the people taking the least interest in the strife which decided their political destinies: so the great Eastern trade is carried on, and increasingly every year, by these men, without interruption from political events or financial crises. From time immemorial this trade has been in the hands of these Bhatias and Banians, and probably nowhere in the world is bloated wealth so concentrated as in the part of Bombay emphatically called “the native town,” where they and the Bohoras, Khojahs and Mehmans dwell, and with no show of it on the surface. They are at once the wealthiest, the most bigoted and bigoted, and the meanest of all the various populations of Bombay, but industrious and thrifty in the highest degree. On the other hand, the European, or rather ocean trade, is chiefly in the hands of the Europeans, and of the Parsees, who are the Anglo-Saxons of the East. Only the other day a translation was published in Bombay of the official charter under which the Parsees were first allowed to establish themselves in Western India, in which they are described as a fair-skinned race, peaceful, religious, enterprising, and delighting in charity,—characteristics which accurately describe the Parsees of this day, who are religious and charitable in the broadest and highest senses of the words. They soon became a wealthy community, and spending their wealth on hospitals, schools, colleges, libraries, tanks, roads, museums, reservoirs, they became famous, and some of them household names all over the civilized world. The head men amongst the Parsees, in fact, became the heads of the native populations of Bombay of all races, religions and sects, and with the heads of the leading European firms the leading men of the Presidency. The only other natives who have gained the same social, municipal and political influence in Western India are two or three distinguished Mahrattas, an uncommercial and warlike race, and the only one in Western India with anything like the instinct of nationality, or which has produced a literature of its own; and they have risen into power solely on account of their political spirit and great aptitude for public affairs. But the trade in which the Parsees have grown rich is, or hitherto has been, an adventurous one, and when the panic came, in 1865, the leading men amongst them, as amongst the European merchants, were all ruined, and the community

of Bombay was deprived of its heads. The wealth of Bombay remained intact; it had merely passed into the hands of those who do not willingly use it for any other purpose than the most sordid and grasping trading; but the moral shock received was incalculable, and from that moral collapse Bombay has not even yet recovered. The fact is, that it has not been found possible to replace the ruined heads of the community by other men, and although ruined they remain in virtue of their past acts and of their character and ability its heads still; and it is just this which has produced that tone of exulting despondency which Mr. Parkinson has so shrewdly observed as characteristic of the present convalescence of Bombay. If you speak of its prosperity in Bombay “you are told at once,” the author writes, “of public works suspended or given up; and though he would be a bold man who advanced any argument against the great commercial future of the port—a future in which many residents insist Bombay is to swallow up the trade of other Indian cities—you run counter to the prevailing tone if you do not speak of its present deprecatingly, as of a friend who has, like Dogberry, had losses, and who is consequently entitled to sympathy as well as admiration. But prosperity is what its appearance suggests.” The ruin of a score or two of great traders, indeed, is not the ruin of trade, and in spite of the effects of the panic on Bombay its prosperity has not been touched. The effects of the panic in stopping civic works even have been inappreciable, for, thanks to the municipal government conferred on Bombay by Sir Bartle Frere, and the vigorous administration of it by the Commissioner appointed by him, these are no longer left to individual beneficence, but are carried out at the cost of the whole community, Bhatia, Banian, and Mussulman, as well as Parsee; and Bombay now, in water supply, in lighting, in plans of drainage, in great public buildings and institutions, is worthy of its political and commercial position and greatness as the second city of the British empire. It is absolutely healthier than London. Such is the city and its inhabitants, now united to every corner of India by rail, and by ocean telegraph to all the ends of the earth, and to which a door into Europe has been simultaneously thrown open at Suez. It is not difficult to predict the great prosperity before this community with all its opportunities of position. But again we would remark, that trade and traders are not the same thing, and as the future trade of Bombay is sure to take a more democratic form, its development must burst all the bounds of the channel in which it at present flows. In such a prospect it is impossible to reflect on the lessons of humility which have been enforced on the community by the panic, and on the spread of higher education in it through the agency of the recently-founded University, except with unalloyed satisfaction; for such a community was not prepared for prosperity until its pride in material greatness was rudely and for ever broken, and the intellectual Mahratta element in it found the conditions favourable for its reaction. Mr. Parkinson tells some capital anecdotes in illustration of the tyranny of caste and of the religious prejudices of the natives, and which seem to rather disturb his inspiring hopes of Bombay, as, of course, one end of his cable. But we should

remember how difficult is the position of the native reformer in India between his conservative countrymen and radical European fellow subjects. Very expressive of that position was the exclamation of a reforming native member of the Bombay Legislative Council—“I feel as miserable as a drum,—kicked at both ends!” And besides the natives of India begin to see that reforming them *from without* very often means merely replacing one set of prejudices by another, and that our Philistinism has not stood in the way of the sort of prosperity of which we make our boast. Mr. Parkinson's book is admirable, however, for the spirit in which it treats of the natives of India. He writes of them neither with antipathy, nor in the still more insulting spirit of condescension of those who look on them as delicate hot-house plants to be preserved from the rude blasts of the world,—as herds to be fattened up for our revenue commissioners' knives; but, in a manly unconscious way, he treats them as fellow men with a fair field and no favour before them. It is no use attempting to artificially support those who would go down in such a contest.

The part of Mr. Parkinson's book relating to the deposition of the cable is illustrated by a chart showing the track of the Great Eastern on her voyage from Bombay to Suez, and of the steam ships *Hibernia*, *Chiltern* and *W. Corry* between Aden and Suez, with the soundings, the daily latitude and longitude and the number of miles of cable paid out, and by sections of the beds of the Arabian and Red Seas. In the appendix are given several official documents of details which lend substantial scientific interest to, and complete the value of, this most entertaining, genial, and timely book, which we can cordially recommend to our readers equally for its matter, its excellent spirit and its style.

NOVELS OF THE WEEK.

Man and Wife. By Wilkie Collins. 3 vols. (Ellis.)

In Exitu Israel. By S. Baring-Gould. 2 vols. (Macmillan & Co.)

Hilary St. Ives. By William Harrison Ainsworth. 3 vols. (Chapman & Hall.)

“THE story here offered to the reader,” says Mr. Wilkie Collins in his preface, “differs in one respect from the stories which have preceded it by the same hand. This time the fiction is founded on facts, and aspires to afford what help it may towards hastening the reform of certain abuses which have been too long suffered to exist among us unchecked.” We wish Mr. Collins all success in his crusade. It may, perhaps, be doubted whether fiction is in general the best weapon with which to attack social abuses. Certainly, if there is any question about the facts on which the novelist bases his story, he may easily do more harm than good to the cause he advocates, especially if he misstates or exaggerates it. Mr. Charles Reade, for instance, in that part of ‘*Hard Cash*’ in which he protested against the pedantries of medical etiquette, seriously injured his case by introducing a superfluous tirade against a system of medical treatment which was abandoned by the profession long ago; and it is by no means certain that in ‘*Uncle Tom's Cabin*’ Mrs. Beecher Stowe did more to advance the anti-slavery movement than to retard it. Not being versed in the

mysteries of the law of marriage, we cannot, of course, guarantee the accuracy of Mr. Collins's account of it in every particular; but we may safely say that it is substantially correct. There can be no doubt as to the existence of the abuses of which he speaks; there can be no doubt as to the urgent need of reform. Lawyers admit that the Marriage Laws of the United Kingdom are eminently unsatisfactory; legislators deplore the defects of the system; the public wonders at the injustices, inconsistencies, and absurdities which are brought to light by successive *causes célèbres*. In 'Man and Wife' Mr. Collins introduces into the plot of a single story several instances of the unjust, inconsistent and absurd results to which the existing law on the subject may, and sometimes does, lead. His main plot is intended to show the scandalous condition of the law of marriage at present in operation in Scotland:—

"The law of Scotland," says one of his characters, "so far as it relates to Irregular Marriages, is an outrage on common decency and common sense. . . . Observe, if you please, that we make full legal provision in Scotland for contracts affecting the sale of houses and land, horses and dogs. The only contract which we leave without safeguards or precautions of any sort is the contract that unites a man and a woman for life. As for the authority of parents and the innocence of children, our law recognizes no claim on it, either in the one case or in the other. A girl of twelve and a boy of fourteen have nothing to do but to cross the Border, and to be married, without the interposition of the smallest delay or restraint, and without the slightest attempt to inform their parents, on the part of the Scotch law. As to the marriages of men and women, even the mere interchange of consent which, as you have just heard, makes them man and wife, is not required to be directly proved; it may be proved by inference. And, more even than that, whatever the law for its consistency may presume, men and women are, in point of fact, held to be married in Scotland where consent has never been interchanged, and where the parties do not even know that they are legally held to be married persons."

The heroine, Anne Silvester, having been seduced by the handsome but brutal athlete, Geoffrey Delamayn, leaves the Scotch family in which she is residing as governess, and flies to an inn, where her seducer has promised to meet her, and to acknowledge her as his wife. Delamayn, from the first unwilling to make the required reparation, is summoned to town in consequence of his father's serious illness, and deposes his friend Arnold Brinkworth to go to the place of rendezvous, and explain the reason of his absence. At the inn, in order to gain access to Miss Silvester, Brinkworth represents himself as her husband, and, in order to avoid detection, she acknowledges him as such. Further complications, and the hope of a rich wife, make Delamayn still less willing to fulfil his engagement to Miss Silvester; and at length he treacherously takes advantage of Brinkworth's incautious conduct to disclaim her, and to represent her as his friend's wife. Brinkworth does not learn that his contradicted admission that he was Miss Silvester's husband constitutes marriage in the eye of Scotch law until after he has married Miss Silvester's friend, Blanche Lundie, and thus unconsciously committed bigamy. It would not be fair to the reader to say how this tangled web is unravelled by the acuteness of the old Scotch lawyer, Sir Patrick Lundie,—how the law which has tied the knot looses it,—and

how the marriage law of England brings fresh sorrows upon the heroine. Other defects in the law of marriage are brought before us in the course of the story; Miss Silvester's mother having been wronged by the law of Ireland, and Hester Dethridge having been the victim of that iniquitous provision of the law of England which denies to a married woman the right to keep her own earnings.

In dealing with the other social question raised in 'Man and Wife,' Mr. Collins does not stand upon so firm a basis of fact. He maintains that "the present rage for muscular exercises" has a pernicious effect, not only on the health, but also on the morals of Englishmen. He holds with Mr. Skey, that "a proportion, and not by any means a small one, of the young men who are now putting themselves to violent athletic tests of their strength and endurance are taking that course to the serious and permanent injury of their own health." His views as to the moral effects of the undue cultivation of muscle are set forth in the following sentences:—

"The essential principle of his rowing and racing (a harmless principle enough, if you can be sure of applying it to rowing and racing, only) has taught him to take every advantage of another man that his superior strength and superior cunning can suggest. There has been nothing in his training to soften the barbarous hardness of his heart, and to enlighten the barbarous darkness in his mind. Temptation finds this man defenceless, when temptation passes his way. I don't care who he is, or how he stands accidentally in the social scale—he is to all moral intents and purposes, an animal, and nothing more."

As to the physical results of the mania for athletics, though the question is still undecided, we are inclined to agree with Mr. Collins and Mr. Skey. As to its moral effects we think that Mr. Collins has overstated his case. We grant that he is not guilty of any exaggeration when he makes his athletic villain say—

"Mind?—It's flesh—that's what's the matter with you. You're nigh on a stone over your right weight. Mind be banged! A man in healthy training don't know that he has got a mind. Take a turn with the dumb bells, and a run up hill with a great coat on. Sweat it off, Arnold! Sweat it off!"

But we are not convinced that there is any direct "connexion between the recent unbridled development of physical cultivation in England, and the recent spread of grossness and brutality among certain classes of the English population." In particular we cannot accept Mr. Collins's theory that athletic sports and certain discreditable disturbances at the University of Oxford stand to one another in the relation of cause and effect. It is true indeed that many of our young men develop their bodies at the expense of their minds, and that the muscle-worship of their early years in many cases incapacitates them for the serious business of manhood. But we do not believe that these athletes are rendered by their muscularity directly dangerous to the commonwealth. We admit that the unwritten law of society has been of late relaxed, but we attribute the relaxation partly to the spirit of competition which is fostered by other pursuits besides athletics and partly to widely different influences.

But this is not the place for a discussion of so great and so serious a question. Even by what we have already said, we may have led our readers to suppose that 'Man and Wife' is a grave treatise on social reform rather than a novel. If so, we must hasten to disabuse

them. Except in the point already mentioned, that it is intended as a protest against some of our laws and against a tendency of the age, 'Man and Wife' strongly resembles Mr. Collins's other novels. The plot is, indeed, less complicated than the plots of former fictions by the same hand; there is no great mystery to be elucidated. Notwithstanding, no reader can fail to be interested, deeply interested, in the story. Mr. Collins possesses the art of fixing his reader's attention throughout the whole of a narrative of intrigue in a higher degree, perhaps, than any other English novelist; and never has he used his art more successfully than in 'Man and Wife.' It abounds in plots and counterplots, in accidents and surprises, in recesses and successes. As usual, his style is in general lively and vigorous; as usual, he sometimes mistakes coarseness for strength, and where he wishes to produce a striking portrait turns out a grotesque caricature. In conclusion, we strongly recommend 'Man and Wife' to the attention of our readers, as a sensation novel much superior to most sensational novels, not only in conception, but also in execution.

The author of 'In Exitu Israel' states on the title-page that it is "an historical novel," and also observes in the preface "I have chosen the form of fiction for this sketch, as it best enables me to exhibit the state of feeling in France in 1788-1789. That is no fiction; the incidents related and the characters introduced are for the most part true to history." Mr. Gould has truly, though rather more clumsily than is his wont, expressed in these words the character of his work. It is, in fact, a species of essay, partly historical and partly ecclesiastical, which glances, "however slantingly," at the present relations of Church and State in England, and is put into the form of a novel either to suit the idiosyncracies of the writer, or to catch the wary British public, which is very shy of what is commonly called "improving" literature, and can only be made to swallow the useful educational pill when it is gilded with some useless but attractive fiction. To show that we are not misrepresenting the author's motives in writing this work we quote again from the preface: "My object in writing this story is to illustrate the currents of feeling in the State and Church of France in 1789, currents not altogether unlike those now circulating in our own."

So far as the religious element of this book is concerned we shall not discuss it. We shall only remark that as a matter of taste we think Mr. Gould mistaken in advocating his views on matters connected with the Church through the medium of a novel. And further, we may add as a matter of business, that religious novels are invariably disappointing, and seldom if ever successful. Coming now to the historical part of our subject, we cannot avoid the reflection that the author is very bold in challenging comparison, as he inevitably does, with the many excellent works that have been written on the history of this the most dramatic and best discussed period of modern times, and we must say that Mr. Gould suffers by the comparison. As to the narrative which is given us, the commencement gave fair promise of a very interesting and well-written tale; but further on the interest flags, and the story becomes commonplace and slightly tedious. Occasionally we have glimpses of merit of no ordi-

nary kind, and one or two of the characters are vividly and naturally depicted. The writing throughout is uneven, but with all its faults the work is one of undoubted ability.

A novel by William Harrison Ainsworth is certain of a large number of readers and admirers, and will require but little recommendation from us. The quaintly old-fashioned but pleasing style of writing in the present work is very welcome from this well-known author, and reminds us strongly of the novels of our youth. The very tale, too, although rather commonplace, is a perfect model of the simple narratives which pleased an older generation, and quite refreshes the reader after the fashionable sensational romances of the present day. We shall not spoil the reader's pleasure by telling this tale here, but content ourselves with a few remarks upon certain points in connexion with it. And, in the first place, to start by fault-finding, we are strongly of opinion that the interest of the book is, to a certain extent, marred by the fact that the reader is from the first let into the secret of the mystery in which Hilary St. Ives, the hero, is enshrouded, whilst all the "*dramatis personæ*" are supposed to be at their wit's end to fathom it. The only matter we are not allowed to know until the end, is that Hilary's mother was niece to a baronet, and that he subsequently inherits the title. We may remark here, that we are so accustomed now-a-days to the heroes of our novels being made dukes and earls at the end of the third volume, that we cannot get up the slightest amount of gratification at Hilary becoming a mere baronet. If anything, we have rather a feeling of contemptuous pity for him. To continue our fault-finding, although we acknowledge with pleasure that the hero's character is forcibly drawn, we are not altogether satisfied with one or two incidents narrated concerning him. It seems to us unnatural that "May" should form a life-long attachment to him, after only an hour's conversation with him one morning before breakfast; for however fascinating and attractive a man may prove, we hold to the belief that in practice it takes a longer time than that to captivate a young lady's heart. Again, although we have every respect for the *naïveté* of the heroine, there is a tendency to the ludicrous in the fact of her addressing her father in the following terms: "You may remember, dearest papa, that at first I was strangely insensible to Sir Charles's noble qualities and devotion. I was blinded by a feeling for another which had taken possession of me. Fortunately I was able to crush it. But of late that feeling has revived, and unless I can conquer it as I did before, it will overpower my resolutions, and in spite of myself I shall love again." "I will have no concealment from you, dearest papa. The person whose image will recur to me in spite of all my efforts to banish it, is Hilary St. Ives."

The very convenient manner in which the love affairs are subsequently arranged are certainly very satisfactory, but would be considered rather eccentric in real life. "May" is engaged to be married to the Marquis of Hartlepool, though she still loves Hilary St. Ives, who is now known as Alberic Delacombe. Alberic declares his love, and the lady replies, "I will speak to the Marquis to-night. I will appeal to his good feelings, to his generosity,

to liberate me from a promise that was in reality extorted from me." The Marquis overhears this, and generously releases her from her promise on the condition that she marries Alberic. To this condition, of course, she consents, and then Myrtila, otherwise Lady Richborough, who has been a witness of these proceedings, not inaptly remarks, "But what will papa and mamma say to this sudden transfer of their daughter without consulting them?" And then ensues the following conversation between her and the Marquis, which forcibly reminds one of the usual termination of farces on the modern stage: "I, too, have never been consulted, and I do not at all like losing the dear Marquis."—"You may still keep him if you choose," said the Marquis.—"Still keep him?"—"Yes, you promised to help me to a wife, and may still do so, if you are so inclined."—"Take care what you say, Marquis," rejoined Myrtila; "I might construe that pretty speech into an offer."—"It is so meant, and I here in plain terms repeat it." So the easily-consoled Marquis transfers his affections to Lady Richborough, and the pair are shortly afterwards married. However, we have finished our fault-finding, and are able to state that, on the whole, it is a highly entertaining novel, and the descriptions of scenery in particular are as refreshing as those of the author always are. We have great pleasure in thinking it will afford others as much enjoyment as it has us.

OUR LIBRARY TABLE.

The Household Fairy. By the Lady Lytton. (Hall & Co.)

LADY LYTTON is quite competent to speak with authority on household matters. In one of her novels many years ago, '*Miriam Sedgely*,' if we remember the name aright, there were such sensible observations on housekeeping, and one especial receipt for the proper making of mutton broth, that we wished then, and have wished since, that the lady would write a complete work upon the topic of household management,—a subject which comes home to the business and the bosom of every man and woman in the kingdom of Great Britain! We opened '*The Household Fairy*' with hope, but we closed it with disappointment. There are certainly some useful suggestions and a few directions, but Lady Lytton is too much engrossed by her own indignation against the general tribe of servants of the period, to be able to give much counsel even to those whom she most desires to help. She denounces the idleness, the sloth, the insolence, the inefficiency, and the pretentiousness of both men servants and maid servants, and she gives a sketch of two paragons of maids, who deserve the title of Household Fairies, whilst in the person of the estimable Mrs. Weldon, she sketches a portrait of a servant of the good old school; but she uses their virtues rather as whips to scourge those whom she denounces, than as inducements to others to imitate them; in short, if we may whisper such a word, Lady Lytton scolds against the whole domestic race as at present extant, and this makes her book much less pleasant to read than if it had been more genial. The paradise of the "*Blossoms*," Mrs. Weldon's house in one of the valleys of North Wales, is charmingly described, and makes the reader wish there were still such a place of refuge left in the world as these lodgings; but Lady Lytton is careful to tell us that Mrs. Weldon is dead, and that she has secured Audry, her pattern of servants, for her own. She bestows upon us some of the good deceased Mrs. Weldon's methods of transforming ordinary maids-of-all-work into Household Fairies, but we fear the result will only be to make struggling housekeepers despair, and feel rather aggravated

at the impossible standard set up before them. That which might be practicable in a leisurely Welsh Paradise, miles away from railways, and with a gem of a house in a lovely old-fashioned garden full of flowers and fruit-trees, would be utterly impossible in a small lodging-house in a London street. Mrs. Weldon was, no doubt, a charming old lady, with ideas of behaviour which would have done honour to Marie Antoinette's mistress of ceremonies, "*Madame Etiquette*," as she called her, but the whole order of things is now so overturned and mixed up, that to aim at bringing back the manners of the children of a village school, in the days of old Lady Bountiful, is worse than useless. The relations between masters and servants are changed, and it is with the present and not with the past we have to deal. Servants now have an individual and independent life of their own; they do not depend on the breath and favour of their employers. A servant who knows how to do her work, and who is respectable, is independent of master or mistress; she can command both her place and her price. That there are so many worthless incompetent servants, who demand extravagant wages, and do nothing well, is one of the great social evils of the time. Insincerity and dishonesty have eaten the heart out of this branch of labour. In the days when the mistress worked along with her servants in the household, a respect was cultivated for the work in hand; she could secure a thoroughness and a finish in the household arrangements which no servants will carry out if left to themselves. French polish and furniture-paste have superseded bees' wax, turpentine and "*elbow grease*." Servants are not thoroughly taught nor well managed; the best soldiers require to be "*well officered*," if they are to be efficient. In the social changes and transmutations that are rapidly taking place, it is to be hoped that some self-respecting ladies in search of "*employment for women*," will bethink themselves of household needs, and not disdain to show by their own example what a good servant ought to be, and how highly respected and valued she may become. In household service there is a sphere of useful and remunerative labour well worth cultivation, but before all things, it is necessary that the women who enter on it shall know how to do their work thoroughly, and do it with their heart and conscience. It is only thus that servants can become a self-governing body, and do without the eye of the mistress upon them. '*The Household Fairy*' is a suggestive book, but the tone is acrid and ungenial.

Curious Facts of Old Colonial Days. By James Bonwick. (Low & Co.)

HAVE our Australian colonies then (for it is to these only that our author refers in his title) their antiquities already? It would seem so; for here is an interesting volume of sketches and anecdotes connected with the settlement of New South Wales, Tasmania and South Australia, which, though not a history, is a work of which the historian who should desire to present a truthful and graphic view of the infancy of these communities, which bid fair to be one day the rivals of the mother country, may well avail himself. The object of the writer has been, above all, to develop and illustrate the principle laid down by the first Bishop of Australia (referring, it is true, primarily, to ecclesiastical matters, yet applicable equally to secular), that almost every great question which has agitated us here at home has had, as it were, its previous rehearsal upon the narrow stage of the colonies.

Mr. Bonwick devotes a considerable portion of his pages to religious questions. Writing, if not as a Nonconformist, yet without the slightest indication of his own adherence to the Church of England,—he appears sufficiently impartial, and does full justice to the efforts of every religious body. It is fearfully plain, as indeed we all knew before, how absolutely negligent we were as a nation of the spiritual interests of those whom we sent out, whether as convicts or as free men, to form our Trans-oceanic England. "Nothing," says our author, "can show more painfully the religious indifference and even moral degradation of England than such conduct in 1787. Nearly a thousand

prisoners were to be carried from Christian Britain to raise a gaul in New Holland, and no provision was thought of respecting these moral outcasts. Had it not been for Mr. Wilberforce, and a few friends of the Society for the Propagation of the Gospel, no missionary would have been sent. Permission was granted for the appointment and passage of a clergyman; but the Society had to supplement the pitiful Government grant." It is wonderful and inexplicable, upon a merely human view of the question, that from such beginnings the present condition of the colonies should be so satisfactory, religiously and morally, as upon the whole it is admitted to be. Mr. Bonwick describes with much sympathy the struggles of the press in the days of the autocracy of colonial governors; and the "martyrdom" of three or four of the earlier printers and proprietors of newspapers is lovingly recorded by the author. Very full and interesting also is his narrative of events connected with the deposition from the Government of the famous Capt. Bligh, of "Bounty" memory. To this day, opinion is much divided upon the question; Mr. Bonwick seems to take his side, upon the whole, against the Governor; yet allows that much is to be said in his favour. "His reforms," we are told, "were doubtless well meant. He may honestly have desired to remove the burdens off the shoulders of the poor convict and emancipist." Hence the animosity and opposition, pushed to active rebellion, of the "free" party. As in every book on Australia, these pages are full of notices of the prevailing sin of the colonies, excessive drinking. Closely connected therewith are certain scenes, happily no longer possible, connected with the female convicts, both on their passage out and in the depôts of Paramatta and Hobart Town, which reflect no credit upon the Government or its subordinates. But, as Mr. Bonwick says, "when England, the reputed land of Protestant purity and light, could cast off her badly-trained, neglected, ignorant and unfortunate daughters, with no more thought of them on that dreadful voyage, and their state in that home of crime, than she had for them when under the shadow of her churches, one cannot be surprised at the indifference of naval and military officers, living in bachelor freedom at a penal settlement the other side of the world." Mr. Bonwick's work is interesting, and well worth reading, but perhaps a little too diffuse. To say nothing of actual repetitions, similarity of circumstances and identity of individuals give to a considerable portion of the sketches of Tasmania all the effect of a repetition of the previously given account of New South Wales. With a little care and re-arrangement, this might have been avoided: the work would have been thereby advantageously shortened, and its contents more easily digested and remembered by its, doubtless, numerous readers.

We have on our table *History of England from the Fall of Wolsey to the Defeat of the Spanish Armada*, by J. A. Froude, M.A., Vols. I. and II. (Longmans).—Book V. of *The Consecutive Narrative Series of Reading Books*, by C. Morell (Murby).—*Handbook of the Sulphur-Cure as applicable to the Vine Disease in America*, by W. J. Flagg (New York, Harper).—*The Woman's Kingdom*, by the Author of 'John Halifax, Gentleman' (Hurst & Blackett).—*Essays in Mosaic*, by T. Ballantyne (Low).—*Stories of Home Life in the North and South of England* (Freeman).—*A Lonely Life*, by the Author of 'Wise as a Serpent' (Houlston).—*Thoughts for the Age*, by the Author of 'Amy Herbert', &c. (Longmans).—*Complete Triumph of Moral Good over Evil* (Longmans).—*Papers on the Doctrine of the English Church concerning the Eucharistic Presence*, by an English Presbyterian, No. VII. (Macintosh).—*L'Empire de la Logique*, par Sébastien Turbiglio (Florence).—and *Neuen Atlas von Hellas*, von Heinrich Kiepert. Among new editions we have *A Grammar of the Welsh Language*, by W. Spurrell (Carmarthen, Spurrell).—and *An Old-Fashioned Girl*, by L. M. Alcott (Low). Also the following pamphlets: *Description of Pompeii, illustrated by Photosculptural Views exhibited at the Crystal Palace*.—*Carbolic Acid and*

Human Parasites, by T. A. Readwin (Spon).—*The Railway Problem*, 1870, edited by Major-General Hill, R.A. (Hicks).—*Spiritualism viewed by the Light of Modern Science*, by W. Crookes.—*Justin's Letters in Reply to Miss Garrett's Defence of the Contagious Diseases Act* (Tweedie).—*Our Prime Ministers, Gladstone, Disraeli* (Truelove).—*England's Duties to India*, Lecture by Baboo Keshub Chunder Sen (Farrah).—*Babu K. Chunder Sen and his Mission*, by a Missionary from India (Morgan & Chase).—*The Day and Hour*, by J. A. Seiss, D.D. (Philadelphia, Smith, English & Co.).—and *A Metrical Version of the Sermon on the Mount*, by D. W. Jobson (New York, Hogan).

BOOKS FOR THE YOUNG.

My Schoolboy Friends: a Story of Whitminster Grammar School. (Edinburgh, Nimmo.)

THE schoolboys of the Whitminster Grammar School have, we are glad to say, no connexion at all with, and bear no resemblance to, the wonderful and aggravating boy who is supposed to know everything, and to be an authentic reference on dark and disputed matters of history, geography, science, and things in general. The Boys of this story are very natural creatures, good, bad, and indifferent, but all are specimens of average boy nature. It is curious that whilst boys home for the holidays, and boys of all ages, from the nursery to "Hobbledehoy," are regarded in real life as so many "young barbarians," whose "play" is utter destruction to the comfort and quiet of all the household gods, they become really pleasant and entertaining young heroes in a story book where the story is skilfully told—but so it is. The Whitminster Boys in the book furnish very pleasant reading, and we take a cordial interest in all their doings; they are none of them in any danger of dying because they are "too good to live," but they have some capital qualities; and the stories they tell in their "dormitories" are charmingly absurd.

The Modern Playmate: a Book of Games, Sports, and Diversions for Boys of all Ages. Compiled and Edited by the Rev. J. G. Wood, M.A. With Illustrations. (New York, Scribner & Co.; London, Warne & Co.)

HERE is a spirited boy's book, a treasury of information upon all boy's and young man's sports. The tone in which it is written is excellent; and the observations scattered throughout are calculated to infuse a healthy and upright spirit amongst those who study its pages, for pastime or for useful information on subjects which are allied to science and natural history. The chapter on gymnastics is excellent, if the young student will only attend to the counsels and cautions with which the directions for performing the exercises are accompanied; but in this as in other chapters on swimming, driving, shooting, fencing, &c., a discreet supervision on the part of parents and guardians must be exercised as to how far the young students may safely put the information into practice. There is a wonderful collection of riddles, conundrums, and acrostics, also of directions for parlour magic and conjuring tricks. 'The Modern Playmate' is a complete encyclopedia of boyish games and sports, and he will be a fortunate youth who possesses a copy.

By the Road-side. By John C. Freund. (Oxford, Shrimpton.)

WHY this little volume should be called 'By the Road-side,' instead of 'By the River-side,' or 'By the Fire-side,' or any other name in the world, it would be hard to say: there is no sort of connexion between the contents of the work and the title-page. The reader will find in its pages a collection of short tales such as were in great request some forty years ago as contributions to *Annals*, those gorgeous volumes of silk and gold exterior, now to be sometimes seen, faded and dim like butterflies of advanced age. Mr. Freund's stories are not quite in the style of the present day, but they are neatly turned, and readable for those who like literary sweetmeats.

Five Weeks in a Balloon: a Voyage of Exploration and Discovery in Central Africa, from the French of Jules Verne. With Illustrations. (Chapman & Hall.)

THE style of this translation is not always unexceptionable as regards the grammar, but it is always easy and spirited. The adventures on earth and in the clouds are exciting and well narrated, and there is such an air of probability and possibility given to the contrivance of the balloon itself, that the reader is persuaded to accept this mode of travelling as a matter of course, as well as a matter of fact. The travellers themselves complain of monotony,—but in the end they have a neck and neck race with danger, imminent enough to have satisfied the most adventurous tourists. The accounts of what they see and meet with in their explorations in Central Africa are all founded on authentic records of travel and discovery. We should expect this translation to be a great favourite with boys. The illustrations are excellent, but the plates are not so good as those in the original French edition.

The Royal Merchant; or, Events in the Days of Sir Thomas Gresham, Knight. By William G. Kingston. (Partridge & Co.)

THERE is too much hurry and movement in this tale; it is all coming and going—dangers, escapes, and dangers again; this causes a tumult and confusion, in the midst of which the reader is lost, and when not lost he is bewildered. The chief political events of the reigns of Edward VI., Mary and Elizabeth, are given in a summary way. Master Gresham (the Royal Merchant) and his adopted son are the private persons who see, hear, and are generally mixed up with the things that are going on. The affairs in the Netherlands under the Duke of Alva also form part of the story. There are fights by sea and by land, imprisonment, flight, burnings of heretics, sieges, slaughters, rescues, and adventures in every variety. The story is written in the Protestant interest, and may therefore be given without any scruple to all the Protestant schoolboys whom it is desired to reward; the book is certain to be much to their taste; it is well written, and the events are narrated with spirit.

The Nations Around. By A. Keary. (Macmillan & Co.)

THIS is a volume of Macmillan's Sunday Library, and it is a very useful and interesting book, to be read either on Sundays or week days. It is full of information, given in an unpretending manner, concerning the other nations of the world, who are mentioned in the Bible, and whose history was mixed up with that of the Israelites. 'The Nations Around,' is a very useful book to read before visiting the Assyrian Marbles in the British Museum, and the information it contains will add greatly to the interest that young persons will take in the historical portions of Scripture.

A Poet Hero. By the Countess Von Bothmer. (Cassell, Petter & Galpin.)

THE 'Poet Hero' will be a favourite book with young people; it is the story of Theodor Körner; all the incidents of the stirring political events of the German war of liberation, with which the name of Körner is associated, especially in the fame of Lützow's "Black Brigade," are woven into a story—all that is known or can be told of the hero is here gathered together and told with the enthusiasm the subject deserves.

Before the Conquest; or, English Worthies in the Old English Period. By W. H. Davenport Adams. (Edinburgh, Nimmo.)

AN elegant-looking book—it is the first of a series in which the author designs to illustrate certain periods of English History, by the help of all the facts he can gather respecting the lives of the men whose names are the most associated with the age and its events. The interstices of history will thus be filled up by the narrative of personal facts, which will afford a closer insight into historical events, and give them the human interest which the "compendious" histories used in schools

lack entirely. The biographical sketches 'Before the Conquest' comprise, Alfred, St. Dunstan, Harold, and Stigand, Archbishop of Canterbury, embracing the period from 849 to 1070.

Jessie Grey; or, the Discipline of Life: a Canadian Tale. By L. G. (Edinburgh, Oliphant & Co.)

Katie Johnston's Cross: a Canadian Tale. By A. M. M. (Same publishers.)

WHETHER it is the impetus lately given to Emigration to Canada which has induced writers to give us stories laid in that country, or whether an impulse has been given to female authorship in Canada we do not know, but here are two "Canadian Tales," both of them very pretty to look at; but except that the scenes are laid in Canada, and that there are in both some descriptions of pretty local scenery, there is nothing to distinguish them from didactic tales written for young people all the world over. They are below the mark as regards style and literary merit,—not to be compared to the stories of the same class written in England or in America. The spirit in which they are written and the moral they inculcate are both excellent, but then the stories themselves are feeble and unattractive, which is to be regretted.

LIST OF NEW BOOKS.

Theology.

Bread (The) of Life: Manual of Instruction and Devotion, 2/ Holy (The) Eastern Church, by a Priest, cr. 8vo. 3/6 cl. Songs of Praise, with Tunes and Accompaniments, 5/ cl.

Fine Art.

Rogers's (F.) Detail Drawings and Sketches, folio, 42/ cl. Slater's Manual of Colours and Dye-Wares, cr. 8vo. 7/6 cl.

Poetry.

Bible Story, told in Verse, 12mo. 3/ cl. Deacon's Johnny Trueman; or, the Young Convert, a Poem, 1/6 Glennie's King Arthur, Vol. II. Play, 1 Opera, 12mo. 6/ cl. Milton's English Poems, edited by R. C. Browne, 2 vols. 6/6 Rhoades's (James) Poems, 12mo. 4/6 cl. Whitteman's A Seaside Story, and other Poems, 12mo. 5/ cl.

Philology.

Chardena's Second French Course, 12mo. 2/6 cl. Hamilton's Logical Consistency of Greek and Latin Syntax, 5/ Tarver's Eton French Accidence and Exercise Book, 12mo. 4/

Science.

Beale's (L. S.) Disease-Germs; their supposed Nature, 3/6 cl. Brook's New Family Herbal, new edit. 12mo. 5/6 cl. Clater's Cattle Doctor, by G. Armatage, new edit. illust. 15/ Edinburgh Obstetrical Society's Transactions, 1868-9, 8vo. 6/6 Foley's Cotton Manufacturer's Assistant, cr. 8vo. 1/6 cl. Proctor's New Star Atlas for the Library, School and Observatory, fol. 25/

Geography.

Heywood's Tourist's Guide to the Towns of Great Britain, 1/9 Townshend's Cruise in the "Waters," 8vo. 15/ cl.

L. & L. Literature.

Ballantyne's Essays in Mosaic, 18mo. 2/6 cl. Broadbent (The) Bells, a Tale for the Poor, 12mo. 1/6 cl. swd. De Miramon's (Madame) Life, by Bonneau, cr. 8vo. 10/6 cl. Dickens, Story of his Life, by Author of 'Life of Thackeray,' 7/6 Dickens's Speeches, Literary and Social, sq. 2/ swd. Greenwood's Escaped at Last, cr. 8vo. 2/ bds. Hope's My Schoolboy Friends, cr. 8vo. 9/ cl. Huxley's Lay Sermons, Addresses and Reviews, 8vo. 10/6 cl. Lonely (A) Life, by Author of 'Wise as a Serpent,' cr. 8vo. 6/ Lover's (S.) Works, 4 vols. 12mo. 10/ rox. Masson's French Classics, Vol. 3, Plays, with English Notes, 2/6 Medical (The) Temperance Journal, Vol. 1, 1870, cr. 8vo. 2/6 Scott's (Sir W.) Miscellaneous Works, Vols. 17 and 18, 3/6 ea. Smith's (W. W.) Echoes of the Past, Present and Future, &c. 5/

THE AMERICAN ISTHMUS.

Now that the Suez Canal is an accomplished fact, and the United States Government are encouraging a survey for a canal across the mountainous Isthmus of America, there may be some advantage in recalling to memory the labours of a party who, a little more than forty years ago, carried a series of levellings from Panama to Chagres,—in other words from sea to sea.

In 1827, Mr. J. A. Lloyd was specially commissioned by General Bolivar to ascertain the best line for a communication, either railway or canal, across the Isthmus. In company with a Swedish officer in the Colombian service, he commenced operations in May, 1828, and being greatly in earnest, carried them on all through the rainy season. Trustworthy instruments were used, all the observations were made with extreme care, so as to avoid the necessity for a subsequent verification, and in addition the relative height of the ocean on each side of the Isthmus was determined.

A popular notion prevails that the Cordillera of the Andes stretches unbroken throughout the

whole length of the Isthmus. But this is not the case, for in the province of Veragua there are breaks in the chain, leaving bold and rugged detached mountains, which are succeeded by conical hills from 300 to 500 feet in height, scattered among savannahs and plains. It was on the line of road, stretching from Panama towards these gaps in the hills, that Mr. Lloyd began his survey, and carried it inland nearly twenty-three miles till he struck the river Chagres at a spot 169·84 feet above the level of high water at Panama. The greatest height crossed on the way was 633·32 feet.

In 1829 the survey was resumed and continued down the course of the river to Cruces, which was found to be not more than 37·96 feet above the Pacific. On this Mr. Lloyd remarks: "Having nearly fifty miles more to descend, and finding so great a fall in nineteen miles, we were led to expect a greater fall than 37·96 feet in the remaining distance; and consequently at this stage in our operations to apprehend that we should find the level of the sea at Panama to be higher than at the mouth of the Chagres."

This apprehension was confirmed, for on arriving at La Bruja, twelve miles from the seaport on the Atlantic, a difference of 13·55 feet was discovered. High water takes place at nearly the same hour on each side of the Isthmus, and the Atlantic is lower than the Pacific by the amount here stated. Variations occur at different hours, the effect of which appears to be that in every twelve hours, and commencing with high tide, the level of the Pacific is first several feet higher than that of the Atlantic; then it becomes of the same height, and at low tide is several feet lower. Again, as the tide rises the two seas are of one height, and finally at high tide the Pacific is again the same number of feet above the Atlantic as at first.

The port of Chagres is so exceedingly difficult and dangerous to approach, that Mr. Lloyd recommended that the adjacent Bay of Limon (or Navy Bay), which is quite safe, should be selected for a port, from which a canal three miles in length would connect with the river Chagres three miles above its outfall. He then proposed to navigate the river to its junction with the Rio Trinidad and to construct thence a railway to Panama. The length of his survey, following the windings of the streams, was eighty-two miles; but in a direct line that distance might be shortened one half; and there are places on the Pacific much nearer to the Bay of Limon than Panama is. Hence it may be concluded that the difficulties in the way of constructing a canal or a railway, or both, would be less on this route than on the routes surveyed where the Isthmus is wider.

A generally accurate idea of the country may be formed from a statement in which Mr. Lloyd remarks that almost every person who visits Panama from the Atlantic side, is disposed to think that the country rises from the Atlantic to the Pacific. The ascent of the Chagres, particularly when the river is swollen by rains, is very toilsome; and on reaching Cruces, after a four or five days' tedious journey, a traveller fancies he has gained a considerable elevation above the sea he has left behind. The impression thus made is strengthened as he advances, through rough and rugged passes, ascending and descending, until on arriving in the savannahs he sees Panama with its conspicuous cathedral, and imagines it to be on a considerable elevation above the sea. The city is built actually on a low flat shore; but the valley from which it was first seen being several feet below the level of the sea favours the contrary impression.

Mr. Lloyd's account of his levellings, illustrated by maps, plans, and sections, was published in the *Philosophical Transactions* for 1830, having been communicated to the Royal Society by Capt. (now General Sir Edward) Sabine, who was then secretary of the Society. To the present generation it offers the charm of novelty.

THE DUBLIN UNIVERSITY MAGAZINE.

Cork, July 6, 1870.

WHEN I wrote to you a fortnight ago to ask whether I had not a fair claim on the Editor of

the 'Dublin University Magazine,' to state with whose permission he had inserted contributions of mine to another Magazine—The 'St. James's,' I had little thought that the proprietorship of these two periodicals was vested in one and the same person. The reply of 'The Proprietor of the Dublin University Magazine,' in your last week's issue, sets my mind at rest as to any loss which he may have sustained by the reprint of my articles, while I may very well leave the question between himself, his defaulting contributors, and his editorial necessities, to be settled amongst those whom it concerns. He, however, quotes the word "claim" in my letter as though the claim had been one for compensation, which it was not, instead of one for information, which it was. This is unwise, as the text cannot by any means be made to bear that construction. On the broad question, I want to know, if I sell an article to one Magazine, is it therefore liable to be published in several?—and if so, what do the subscribers to the several Magazines think of the device?

WHATELY COOKE TAYLOR.

BURNS'S POEMS.

101, West Nile Street, Glasgow, June 24, 1870.

SOME time since I purchased an edition of Burns's poems in four volumes, published by M'Kie, of Kilmarnock. The first was a fac-simile of the Kilmarnock Burns. The issue was to be restricted to 600 copies. Judge of my surprise when I learned that copies of this so-called restricted edition could be readily obtained here to any extent. I wrote to Mr. M'Kie, asking for an explanation. Enclosed I send you his reply. At one time I thought of allowing the matter to pass, but circumstances I need not mention have prompted me to place it in your hands, to be dealt with as you see fit.

ALEXANDER LINDSAY.

"Kilmarnock, May 11, 1870.

"DEAR SIR,—I duly received yours yesterday, but being our fair day, have not been able to snatch a moment to reply until now. In 1867, I printed the 'Fac-simile,' the edition being 600 copies only.

"Last year, 1869, I published the three volumes you refer to, the edition being to the extent of 600 only also. Having a *bond fide* order from America for an edition of the 'Fac-simile,' I have printed such, types being of course specially re-set, and fulfilled said order.

"As some of the subscribers to my 'Fac-simile' would not subscribe for the three vols., and as others were got in their stead, I certainly had not, and could not have, any objections to supply them with copies of the American Fac-simile to complete the work. While I should be very sorry to do anything to displease you or any other person, I hold that in this I have done nothing to offend or break faith with any one. The fact is I was not bound not to produce an edition after the first, neither morally nor legally, and one special point in the supplying any few of the 'Fac-similes' which have been sent out, is that they have not been given except to parties having the three volumes, nor have they been given at a less price than the original, viz. half-a-guinea. Trusting this explanation will satisfy you, I am, dear Sir, your very obedient servant,

JAMES M'KIE."

NOTES FROM SPAIN.

THE Sociedad de Bibliófilos Españoles has just issued to their subscribers the 'Tragedia llamada Josefina,' by Micael de Carvajal. This biblical play (the history of Joseph) is printed from a copy supposed to be unique, discovered by Wolf in the Vienna Library and published at Toledo in 1546. Of this work and the elaborate and erudite preface by Señor Cañete we hope to give a more extended notice when our space will permit.

The Seville Bibliófilos have issued two volumes, one being the first instalment of the poetical works of Doctor Juan de Salinas, a Sevillean poet who died in 1643. His works have hitherto remained in manuscript only. The second, a most curious production, is called 'The Sermons of the Mad

Amaro.' They are in the form of the short patent sermons of Dow Junior, and their freedom and eccentricity, no doubt, assisted to induce Campazas to write his 'Fray Gerundio,' which ridicules the taste for comic sermons by ignorant preachers, so prevalent in his day.

The paper and typography of these books are faultless, and reflect high credit upon the presses of Rivadeneyra, of Madrid, and Geofrin, of Seville.

The two last numbers of the *Revista de España* contain articles of the highest interest, amongst others, Episodes of the Last (Carlist) Civil War, from the pen of an eye-witness, General Ros de Olano,—a paper upon the Portuguese poet, novelist and historian Herculano, by Ortiz—'La Princesa de los Ursinos,'—a chapter of history, by Señor Macanáz—"the relation of her life is the first page of Spanish history of the eighteenth century, and led to the occupation of the throne by Charles the Third,"—"The Duel Historically, Philosophically and Legally considered," from the pen of Señor Alvarez,—'Matrimony in its Historical Relation to Church and State,' by Señor de Cárdenas,—some clever Notes upon Egypt, by Señor Riaño, who formed one of the party officially delegated from Madrid to attend the ceremonial of the opening of the Suez Canal,—An Historical and Statistical Paper upon the Quicksilver Mines of Almaden, by Señor Ginér, is of peculiar interest at the moment, although the figures appear to be those of the Government Report of 1862.

Politics, "Interior and Exterior," are treated with their usual calm dignity and force by Señores Alvareda and Cos-Gayon,—and several reviews, notably one of considerable length upon Señor Pezuela's 'History of Cuba,' by Señor Buzarán, bring up the rear. F. W. C.

THE EUPHRATES ROUTE.

ALEPPO is in excitement on account of the efforts of the Ottoman Government, or it may rather be said of the Viceregal Government of Bagdad, to open the steam navigation of the Euphrates. Milhad Pasha, having placed steamers on the Suez Canal route, has now sent two small steamers up the Euphrates, which have done well and reached the nearest station to Aleppo. A carriage-road will be made from Aleppo to the Euphrates, and the route will be made available in preparation for the railways which the Government contemplate from Constantinople, in continuation of the European system to Bagdad.

PARIS.

M. BELGRAND, the engineer entrusted with the direction of the sewers and waterworks of the city of Paris, has produced the first volume of the 'General History of Paris,' undertaken by the municipality, and which bears as its title 'Bassin Parisien aux Ages Antéhistoriques.' It may be described as an introductory volume, giving an idea of the valley of the Seine in the earliest ages, when the river was an enormous stream, the level of which was more than a hundred feet above that of the present city. M. Belgrand maintains that the great changes in the bed of the Seine must have been brought about by violent convulsions of nature, and not by slow degrees, as maintained by many geologists. The volume is illustrated; the subjects including the fossils and pre-historic objects which will form the early collection of the new Municipal Museum now preparing in the Hôtel Carnavalet.

CHARACTERISTIC TRAITS.

AMONG the numerous autograph letters which belonged to the late antiquary, Mr. Manners, and which were recently sold at Messrs. Sotheby's, there were some which were highly amusing through the little touches they contained of the disposition and character of the writers. James Barry, the painter, of course, complains of the brutal persecutions purposely set a-going to distract him; but this was disease. A tax-paper return made by Orator Hunt is more character-

istic, in the lines which he appended to it: "I have kept neither servant, horse, dog, or any other taxable article, since the 25 Apl. 1820; and may the Devil take all Swindling Inspectors and rascally Tax-gatherers! I hope to see some of the Rogues Hung!" In exactly opposite spirit is a letter from Lady Huntingdon, who tells a complaining correspondent that we should "take the evils of life as a little bit of bad road to Canaan." Wesley had a terrible rough bit of this bad road in his rather termagant wife. One of his letters to this sorry helpmate says: "Oh, Molly, throw the fire out of y^r bosom. Shun, as ye would a serpent, those that stir it up." Southey, in 1809, says of the Mrs. Clarke and Duke of York scandal: "There are strong reasons for supposing the accusation has been set on foot by the Prince of Wales... If," says the author of 'Wat Tyler,' "I were in the habit of drinking wine, which, plague on the taxes! is not the case, I should drink Wardel's health!" Southey was then a Liberal, but he was not half so advanced in liberality as the Earl Stanhope, who, forwarding a bank-note to a young Etonian in need, wrote, "Whenever any of you Aristocrats apply again to me for subscriptions, I will apply to you for some *sans-culotte* subscription in return." This is thoroughly characteristic of the peer, who, in revolutionary times, doffed his title, erased his arms from his carriage, and tried to make a handicraftsman of his son! In a letter of Peter Pindar's we find the writer saying, "Take my word for it, Northcote, thou mayest, if thou pleasest, be as great a man as Sir Joshua"; to which we can fancy Northcote replying in the very worst and strongest of English. One of the most characteristic of these letters is from Walter Scott to Southey, in 1825. After expressing his ignorance of Lockhart's connexion with the *Quarterly*, Scott writes,—"and it is so charmingly like Scott,—"I would as soon buffet with the snow-flakes, which are falling on my windows at this moment, as I would try to contradict idle rumours and combat unfounded imaginations." To turn from characteristic individual sentiments to characteristic national facts, we conclude by noting that a paper, signed by Nathaniel Carew, Bishop of Durham (he was, if we remember rightly, the first bishop after the Reformation who was of noble birth), states that "The number of Persons that have been Touched for the (King's) Evil, and soe many Meddalls deliver'd for that Use, from July 24 to Dec. 23, 1682, was 3,535."

LANGUAGES AND THE CENSUS.

It is well known that foreign governments, and especially those of Austria and Russia, get returns in their censuses of the languages spoken by all the families making the returns, and that then elaborate maps of the countries are prepared, showing the results in colours; each language or dialect having its own tint. These maps are, of course, of great service to philologists and ethnologists. Our own Government has hitherto neglected this subject altogether in our census returns; but they have now been memorialized by the Philological Society to take it up; and as that Society has asked the Ethnological and Statistical Societies and the Society of Arts to send separate memorials on the subject, we hope that the necessary returns may be obtained and mapped. On the motion of Mr. James A. H. Murray, the author of a long and able paper on the 'Dialects of the South of Scotland,' the last meeting of the Philological Society passed the following resolution: "That in the opinion of this Society it is extremely desirable that the Census of 1871 should include an official record of the extent to which languages other than English are now used in the United Kingdom and home dependencies, and of the local distribution of those languages; and that this society do memorialize Her Majesty's Government, praying them to take such measures as may be deemed necessary for the collection of such information by adding to the census papers a column in which shall be recorded the language or languages in addition to, or other than, English, used for the ordinary pur-

poses of life by each person entered in such column." Where two or more languages are used they are to be returned in the order of frequency of use, as Welsh, English; or Jersey, English, French.

THE TURKISH IMPERIAL PRINTING-OFFICE.

THE *Levant Herald* gives an interesting account of the progress of the Imperial Printing Office at Constantinople, for the improvement of which an imperial commission has just been appointed. It now employs sixteen steam presses. Besides the official gazette, the *Takvim Vakai* and other official new journals, the *Salsmeh* or Imperial almanack and numerous official papers, it prints many commentaries on the Koran and other religious works. It has lately published the Arab text of Abulfeda's 'History of the Caliphs,' and a summarized Turkish translation of a lately discovered Arabic MS., being a history of the Arabs to the taking of Constantinople by the Turks. The author of this work is called the Munejjein Bashi, or chief astronomer. We may add that the office is engaged in printing a great number of school-books in Turkish and the other languages of the empire.

Literary Gossip.

THERE is something more than ordinarily pleasant in the prospect of a Life of Barham, the author of 'Ingoldsby,' by his son.

LAMARTINE left among his MSS. carefully written memoirs of his mother and of himself. The first life is complete; the autobiography is said to be a noble fragment. These will be published simultaneously in Paris and London; in the latter city, the edition will be in English.

WE stated lately that a copy of 'Wace's Bishops of Ireland,' annotated in MS. by Dr. Todd, was sold at the sale of his library for 450*l*. It was bought by Trinity College, Dublin, after a competition with Cambridge University; but we hear a rumour, we trust not a true one, that there is some intention of repudiating the bid, on the ground that the book had previously been bought by private arrangement at a lower price.

CURIOSITIES of literature are inexhaustible. In 1868, Messrs. Moxon published Vol. I. of 'The Complete Correspondence and Works of Charles Lamb, with an Essay on his Life and Genius,' by George Augustus Sala. To the merits and the blunders of this volume, we accorded due notice. We looked forward for Vol. II.; but in place of what we looked for, Messrs. Moxon give us Vol. I. over again, with its old blunder as to *Barbara S*—of "Elia" being Miss Kelly! and in place of Mr. Sala's essay, a new one by Mr. Purnell, who states that he is "aided by the recollections of the author's adopted daughter." Not a word of explanation is given for publishing Vol. I. twice over, with the eviction of Mr. Sala from his "coign of vantage." Some "pretty history" is, doubtless, connected with this incident.

THE demand for the Tauchnitz 'Lothair' in Germany has so far exceeded expectation, that the Baron has, *more suo*, doubled his tribute-money. In America the Messrs. Appleton have printed 50,000 copies, and it is stated, on the best authority, that the present demand is 1,000 copies a day. We do not learn, however, that Messrs. Appleton have adopted the genial principles of the Baron Tauchnitz.

PROF. ATTWELL'S 'Book of Thought' is to appear in the "Golden Treasury Series"; not in the *Globe* series.

AMONG the recent books published by Mr. Draper, at Andover, Mass., U.S., is a translation of 'Winer's Grammar of the Idiom of the New Testament,' from the last improved edition, by Lünemann. The version is said, on the title-page, to be an *authorized* one, and is by Prof. Thayer. This throws light on the fact that the translator of the old edition, issued not long since by the Messrs. Clark, of Edinburgh, after professing that he was not at liberty to use Lünemann's, unwarrantably depreciates it, as though it were of little importance whether Winer's corrections and additions left in MS. should be incorporated in an English translation.

MR. THOMAS CARLYLE has gone to Dumfries to see his friends and recruit his health, which has been indifferent for some time past.

CHILDREN of every growth will rejoice to know that, just as Walter Scott illustrated the history of his country in 'Tales of a Grandfather,' so is M. Guizot illustrating that of France in a history "racontée à mes petits enfants." The veteran author will stop at 1789.

THE sources of the old Saxon poem of the 'Heliand' (the Saviour) have been lately tracked by Mr. Windisch, and separately by Dr. Grein. Both critics agree that the chief source was the 'Harmony of the Gospels,' attributed to Tatian; while others were the Commentaries of Bede, and, according to Mr. Windisch, those of Rabanus Morus and Alcuin, or, according to Dr. Grein, those of Augustine and Jerome, and the Homilies of Gregory the Great.

M. J. DUCHESNE has published his 'History of the French Epic Poems of the Seventeenth Century'; and M. L. Benckew his essay on the Spirit of Greek Literature.

THE Rev. J. H. Blunt, author of a 'History of the Reformation,' is to edit 'The Mirror of Our Lady' for the Early English Text Society.

THE Head Master of the City of London School has issued a revised and enlarged edition of his 'Shakespearian Grammar.' We echo Mr. Abbott's wish that this excellent book may forward the development of English instruction in English schools. Classical studies themselves will gain by a more intelligent study of English than now prevails.

THE 'Story of the Life' of Dickens which has been announced will contain fac-similes of the original wrapper of Pickwick, and of the portrait of Dickens by Count D'Orsay.

LIPPINCOTT'S for July contains an article on "Petticoat Influence on the Government of England," by Mr. Justice McCarthy, and the *Atlantic* has a new poem by Mr. Longfellow, called 'The Alarm Bell of Atri.'

IT is proposed to publish a volume of biographical sketches of the first two hundred and twenty-five graduates of Harvard. The chief names would be those of Presidents Willard, Mather, Hoar, Oakes and Rogers; of Starkey the alchemist, of Sir George Downing, of Wigglesworth, author of the 'Day of Doom,' of Hubbard, Burroughs, Dudley, Stoughton, Pierson, Bulkley, Hobart, Stoddard, Winthrop, Sewell, Shepard, Cotton, Chauncy, Whiting, Woodbridge, Danforth, Cooke, Bradstreet, and Saltonstall.

SEVERAL American biographies of Dickens

are announced. One will be published by Messrs. Putnam.

IT is feared that clause 47. of the Irish Church Act is not wide enough to secure the preservation of all the most interesting records of the Irish Church. We trust that means will be taken before January next to effect the object.

THE Harleian Society, which is now in a flourishing state, will shortly publish 'Visitations' of Oxfordshire and Nottingham.

THE Spenser Society promise another volume of their handsome folio reprint of Taylor the water-poet's works next month. A third volume will finish the rest of this prolific writer's works, which are above 120 in number. The unique copy of Robinson's 'Handfull of Pleasant Delites, 1584,' will then be produced by the Society.

AMONG the new names by which the Committee of the Palestine Exploration Fund has been strengthened, are those of Lord Lawrence, Mr. Emanuel Deutsch, Prof. Donaldson, and Dr. Keith Johnston. A book on the recent work of the Fund is being prepared for publication. Among the contributors, as at present arranged, are Capt. Wilson and Capt. Warren, who will take the main subject, that of Jerusalem; Lieut. Anderson, Mr. Deutsch, Prof. Donaldson, Rev. F. W. Holland (on Sinai), and Mr. W. S. W. Vaux, F.R.S. It is hoped that the publisher, Mr. Bentley, may be able to bring out the work early in autumn.

PROFESSOR ALBERTO ERRERA, who has in various works ably described the progress of popular beneficial institutions in Italy, has just published at Venice, 'Monografie degli istituti di provvidenza e di credito della industria e del commercio.'

SIGNOR ERCOLE RICOTTI has published at Turin a clever essay, 'Degli effetti della polvere di guerra nell' incivilimento Europeo,' showing the influence which the invention of gunpowder has had on European civilization, and the many changes it has produced.

'LA LIBERTA DEL CAMBIO E DELLE BANCHE' (Ribera, Messina), by Signor Salvatore Buscemi, treats of several important questions which affect the systems of exchange and banking.

PROFESSOR B. MEZUCCELLI, in his recent work, 'Delle dottrine filosofiche di Berardo Quartapelle,' published at Naples, introduces Signor Quartapelle to his readers in a new character; although tolerably well known as a naturalist, he was not known as a philosopher, even in Italy, until this volume appeared.

SIGNOR PIETRO MANFRIN, in his studies on 'Il sistema municipale inglese e la legge comunale italiana,' gives a well-written account of the municipal laws of England, as compared with the communal laws of Italy.

THE second volume of Signor Cesare de Crescenzo's 'Problemi di Filosofia' has appeared; also, by the same author, an instructive dialogue, entitled 'Immortalità dell' Anima.'

IN Salvador a public library is being formed, and in the neighbouring state of Costa Rica a professorship of Greek has been established in the University, and a very curious teaching of Greek will be available to the half-Indians of the city.

SCIENCE

The Student's Flora of the British Islands. By J. D. Hooker, C.B., M.D., F.R.S. (Macmillan & Co.)

SOME of the readers of this journal will remember the feeling of surprise that prevailed among botanists when, some years since, it was announced that Mr. Bentham was about to write a British Flora. In spite of "Hooker and Arnott"—assuredly no specialists—there was at one time a feeling among the younger botanists that British Floras were things apart from the work and pursuits of general botanists. The impression had grown up, we hardly know how, that such works should be left to British botanists, in the limited acceptance of the term; that, as it would be strange to go to a Ferguson or a Nélaton for the extraction of a tooth, so it would be out of place to expect a leader of the profession to write a handbook for tyros. The experiment had been tried, and with results not altogether satisfactory; Lindley's 'Synopsis of the British Flora' is not the book on which the author's reputation will rest; and Sir James Smith's 'British Flora' has long lost its original repute. Bentham's 'Handbook' put an end to this feeling. Its masterly descriptions of British plants showed at once the grasp and power conferred by wide general knowledge and the discrimination resulting from careful attention to details. Nevertheless, complaints were made that the interests of British botanists had been, as it were, swamped by the author of the Handbook; or to express ourselves in another way, it was as if too much care had been lavished on the company as a whole, and not enough pains bestowed on the individual privates composing it. Some such feeling may have influenced Dr. Hooker in the preparation of the present volume; at any rate, we have before us a book written on a different plan and on different principles from that of Mr. Bentham.

It is a great thing for the student when an acknowledged master in science steps from his pedestal and assumes the office of tutor. But the master having done so, it is not unnatural on the part of the pupil to expect not a mere summary, however clear and well put together, of the labours of others, but also some indication of his master's own views and opinions. Now, the work before us is an excellent summary of the views of Watson, Syme and Baker, checked and controlled throughout by the personal researches of the author, but still presenting little that can be termed Hookerian. It is a matter for congratulation to have a volume so carefully compiled as the present one undoubtedly is. It is satisfactory to feel assured from internal evidence that the immense resources available at Kew have been turned to good account, and that we have, in consequence, in short compass, probably the most accurate descriptive Flora of our islands that has yet been published. But still it is merely descriptive: its interest is local. In this particular it resembles Babington's 'Manual,'—a favourite book with pupils. In this particular it differs from Bentham's 'Handbook.' To some extent the present volume holds the middle place between the two just mentioned. Less concise than Prof. Babington's treatise, its portraiture of the plants described is less effective, even if more elaborated in the matter of details, than that in Bentham's work.

Those who know the tendency of the Kew school of botanists to combine into readily definable groups numerous forms, kept separate by others, will experience a feeling of surprise to see in the present volume a different process followed. Once a "lumper," the author here shows himself as a "splitter,"—or, rather, we should say, he subordinates for the nonce his own views to those of Syme and others. Indeed, the author does ample justice to the great knowledge and accurate discrimination displayed by the last-named botanist. This is as it should be; but, at the same time, it would have been more satisfactory had the reasons for the change of procedure on Dr. Hooker's part been more fully explained. It is no question of right or wrong—this difference of opinion as to the limits to be assigned to species; this varying interpretation of the importance to be attributed to certain forms over others. Both opinions are right from the point of view of their respective holders, but it is essential that the student should know what that point of view is. If he has not before him the postulates and basis on which the argument rests, how can he hope intelligently to follow the course of the discussion,—how arrive at satisfactory conclusions for himself? Now it is just this which is wanting in the present volume. Perhaps the answer to this objection may be found in the circumstance that the book is intended merely for beginners, that it is designed to furnish them with an armamentarium of facts from which they may in due time choose their own weapons, and, having chosen them, use them in the manner best suited to their own purposes. From this point of view the book leaves nothing to be desired, and we have little doubt that its title of 'Student's Flora' will be amply justified by its general adoption among the class for whom it was intended.

Alpine Flowers for English Gardens. By W. Robinson, F.L.S. With numerous Illustrations. (Murray.)

Mushroom Culture: its Extension and Improvement. By W. Robinson. With numerous Illustrations. (Warne & Co.)

MR. ROBINSON'S principal aim in the first work is to show that Alpine scenes are not necessary for Alpine flowers. "The number of amateurs," he says, "who spend small fortunes on hot-house plants, and who generally have not a dozen of the equally beautiful flowers of northern and temperate regions in their gardens, might grow an abundance of them with a tithe of the expense required to fill a glass house with costly Mexican or Indian orchids. Our botanical and great public gardens, in which Alpine plants are usually found in frames, in obscure corners, or perhaps a few dozen of different kinds on some absurdly formed rock-work, half hidden under trees and shrubs, or a canvas roller-blind, as if properly ashamed of itself, might each exhibit a beautiful Alpine garden at half the expense and trouble they now bestow on some tropical family, displayed in a single glass house. In a word, there is not a garden of any kind, even in the suburbs of our great cities, in which they may not be grown and enjoyed."

This is the key to the author's volume, in the second part of which he enters into the

detail of the several Alpine flowers which he believes may be so cultivated in our country. Each flower is severally and briefly noted, and practical floricultural hints are given, which bear the stamp of knowledge and experience. So far, this book is useful and commendable. If, however, the reader expects, as he might fairly expect, a thorough and animated description of Alpine plants in their lofty native habitats, graced with poetical feeling, and marked by Alpine enthusiasm, he will be completely disappointed. Having ourselves seen on not a few occasions some of the most beautiful floral displays in the High Alps, and in the intersecting valleys, we must in candour confess that this volume, which we had anticipated with pleasure, is in some respects disappointing. So far as appears from his pages, Mr. Robinson has not seen the distinguishing Flora of the Alps to its full extent. In a section in Part I. he describes what he did see in the course of 'A Little Tour in the Alps,' and he seems to have missed beholding some of the finest localities in the very line of his "little tour"—when, for instance, at Saas, the snow was too deep for him to visit that singularly beautiful and grandly surrounded Alpine garden, which lies nearly at the foot of the Fée glacier. The Fée Alp, which we visited daily during a week's sojourn at Saas, is, to our thinking, hardly matched anywhere in respect of situation. Here is a perfect Alpine garden, flanked, and as it were walled in, by the highest mountains in Switzerland, dotted over with flowers and plants, and totally separated from all the great human world by height and distance and lonesomeness. It is unsurpassed in its grassy beauty and in its mountain grandeur. Here the orchids and other plants flourish untrod, and almost unseen, by man; and here a single pedestrian or two alone disturb the impressive solitude.

Moreover, Mr. Robinson does not name the rare little plant found near the Mattmark lake, *Pleurogyne carinthiaca*, which botanical enthusiasts search after with unflagging zeal, and about which we might say something curious. For three summers we have searched for it on the spot, and only found it last summer. Mr. Robinson went over the Monte Moro Pass to Macugnaga, and, although duly impressed with the wonderful grandeur of the views of Monte Rosa, does not seem to have tarried more than a day or two at the last-named village. He then walked down the Val Anzasca, and hastily noted the Flora; but as to any proper account of the Flora of that paradisaical valley, he might as well have remained in London. After walking down it thrice leisurely, and botanizing at intervals, we do not hesitate to pronounce it one of the richest floral, as well as the most beautiful scenic valleys known to European travellers. Crossing at one visit from the middle of that valley by a high pass to Fobello, we found during two days so many exquisite ferns, together with uncommon Alpine plants, that we have always regarded that district as a floral Eden and an Alpine garden. Nevertheless, of all this Mr. Robinson says nothing.

Then, again, there is the very attractive and rich Flora of the Engadine, which our author does not seem to know at all. At Pontresina, what a flower-show is the window of that wealthy native who, in July and August, places out bright red flower-pots, to contrast

with his gay green shutters, and in each flower-pot a floral gem which would win a prize at Sydenham or in the Regent's Park Botanic Gardens! Not a line is there in this volume, so far as we have read it, concerning this splendid Flora of the Engadine, which, by way of contrast with the extremely severe local climate, is probably the most noteworthy in the Alps. We have shivered there on an August evening, while gazing at the glorious window-shows of floral beauty.

While, therefore, we readily admit the horticultural value of Mr. Robinson's volume, we cannot accredit him with Alpine floral experience and observation. A Scotch gardener could tell us as much practically about his particular plants, although he had never been up Ben Lomond or Ben Nevis. There is yet lacking the literary labour of some genuine Alpine florist who will give us a book worthy of the flowers and of the mountains.

Readers of Mr. Robinson's volume must not expect figures of the several plants named, for only two or three small woodcuts are given. The "numerous illustrations" announced on the title-page relate to rock-work, rock-gardens, &c., and are mostly indifferent. The larger ones are impressions of old plates first used in various Alpine books, and here often made to do duty by omitting the local designation and substituting a general title, as, for instance, 'The Glassy Ocean of the Mountain Ice,' and 'An Alpine Valley and River-bed.' By this contrivance the Pyrenees and Swiss Alps are confounded together, and a Pyrenees glacier suits Monte Rosa.

Tourists in general see little of the floral beauty of the Swiss Alps, for they who visit them in July or August or September arrive too late. In truth, it is difficult to see this Flora in its early and full beauty, since most of the beautiful flowers open before the inns do, and close soon after the inns open. Fresh or unmelted snows, too, are another hindrance, and literally in the Alps

Full many a flower is born to blush unseen,
And waste its sweetness on the desert air.

The *Rhododendron ferrugineum*, however, can be seen later, and is well known as the famous "Alpine rose," often terminating the woody vegetation on the great mountains. Let any tourist who can for once visit the finest and best watered valleys in the Swiss and Piedmontese Alps in the beginning of June, and verily he will have an ample floral reward.

In the second work, that on 'Mushroom Culture,' the author of 'Alpine Flowers' is entirely practical. Although this little volume is a mere make-up of miscellaneous matter concerning cultivable fungi, it will be read with interest by practical fungologists. Science it does not aim at; it provides for the palate, not the brain. The author wishes that "the general gardening public should have a broad and clear idea of the several ways in which they may procure abundance of excellent mushrooms with very trifling expense." "I believe," he adds, "that if the knowledge of how easily and in how many ways they may be grown, apart from the usual mode, were sufficiently spread, it would lead to the production of many times our present supply."

Economy in cultivation is a main point with our author, and in this respect he will be found useful. The only generally interesting part of

his book is his account of mushroom-culture carried on in caverns beneath the environs of Paris; but as this seems to be a reprint, we shall simply refer to it. Few people who visit Paris are aware of the singular and systematic manner in which old and deep stone-quarries are utilized for the extensive culture of mushrooms. We have often wondered why old coal-pits were not thus used; for, by reason of equable temperature, they seem admirably adapted for extensive mushroom-gardening; but it seems that coal is unfriendly to mushrooms, and that the smallest particle of iron in the beds of manure is avoided by the spawn of this plant, so that a circle around it remains barren. If an evil-minded workman wishes to injure his employer, he steals along the fungous beds with a pocketful of rusty old nails, and, by inserting one here and there in the beds, destroys his master's hopes.

We will not plant a single rusty nail in Mr. Robinson's mushroom beds, but wish him well, and hope he will enjoy his next dish of well-cooked agaries.

On the Manufacture of Beet-Root Sugar in England and Ireland. By William Crookes. Illustrated. (Longmans & Co.)

THE subject of this volume is one of great importance to all those who are interested in agriculture. We have the authority of the present Chancellor of the Exchequer for the statement that "the beet-root industry of the Continent seems to have got over its difficulties, and to be spreading very widely." So much gravity is attached by foreign financiers to the probability of the culture of the sugar-cane in tropical countries being affected by that of the sugar-beet in Europe, that we are told by Mr. Crookes (on what authority it is not clear) that the present Emperor of the French states, that the British Government offered to M. Achard, who obtained, towards the close of the last century, 6 per cent. of sugar and 4 per cent. of molasses from beet-root cultivated in Silesia, a bribe of 30,000*l.* if he would report that his experiments had resulted unfavourably! We may have our doubts as to the exactitude of this story; but even if it were pure invention, it is like the smoke which indicates fire.

The annual value of raw sugar now made from beet-root in France exceeds five millions sterling. Upwards of 600,000 tons of beet-root sugar are now produced by more than 1,800 factories on the Continent; 55,000 tons of beet-root sugar, costing 1,600,000*l.*, were imported into the United Kingdom in the year 1867. In addition to the sugar itself, spirit to the value of 1,350,000*l.* was distilled (from the root and from molasses extracted from the root) in the harvest of 1865-6, in France. Potash, to the value of 500,000*l.*, and pulp-cake, worth a million sterling as food for cattle, were produced from the same culture. One two-hundred-and-thirty-seventh part of the area of France—a less average than is devoted to the growth of rape—gave a return of upwards of nine millions sterling for the year in question.

There would appear to be no natural cause existing to prohibit an equally productive culture of the sugar-beet in the United Kingdom. The plant thrives, under proper care, from the shores of the Mediterranean to very near the Arctic Circle. While the weight of the crop

of roots varies on the Continent from 8½ tons per acre in Austria to 14½ tons per acre in Prussia, Sir Robert Kane states that the quantity grown in Ireland has been from 16 to 40 tons per statute acre. 12·9 per cent. of raw sugar is the average per-centage of American-grown beets; the Irish root has yielded a per-centage of sugar equal to that of the sugar-cane itself—namely, 16 per cent.

Now if we keep below the margin in calculating from these data, we shall yet find the profit offered to the farmer by the successful cultivation of the beet-root, according to Mr. Crookes's statements, to be so considerable, that the well-known readiness of mankind to avail themselves of new sources of wealth makes us inquire whether the whole truth can be unreservedly brought before us. What are the dangers and difficulties that prevent any one from growing beet? As to this we are still somewhat in the dark.

Assuming that an acre of ground will produce 24 tons of roots, yielding a per-centage of 8 to 10 per cent. of sugar, the excess of the value of 2½ tons of sugar, over that of the *maximum* yield of 56 bushels of wheat, is so large, as to lead to the inquiry of what is the expense attending the growth and manufacture of the proceeds of the more lucrative crop.

Mr. Crookes tells us that in France it costs 22 per cent. more to cultivate and harvest an acre of beet than it does to grow and save an acre of wheat. As to the cost of the manufacture, we find more difficulty in forming an estimate, but the details and the price of all the necessary plant, as well as of each step of the process, are very minutely given by Mr. Crookes.

We arrive here at the limit of the aid which can be fairly expected from literature. No man in his senses could be expected to set to work to produce good sugar from the perusal of Mr. Crookes's book, without visiting actual factories, and making himself acquainted with the details of the process by the use of his own eyes. On the other hand, no large proprietor or farmer would be justified, these asserted facts being once brought to his notice, in failing to verify the statements thus clearly presented to him, and to inquire how far the culture of such a lucrative crop might suit his own land, or come within the limits of his capital.

The greater portion of Mr. Crookes's work is remarkably precise, luminous and instructive. The eleventh chapter, which gives some information, furnished by M. G. M. Kemmis, a Belgian civil engineer, is less intelligible than the others—possibly from faults of translation. Thus it is hard to understand what is meant by "64,100 English chaldrons of alcohol." Nor is it clear why M. Kemmis recommends the cultivation of beet-root for six successive years as denoting the value of the soil; while Mr. Crookes says, "It is improvident and bad farming to cultivate the beet-root two or more years in succession on the same piece of land."

For these and all other details we must refer to the work itself, which is unusually compendious. As far as black and white can go, Mr. Crookes seems to have gone. The effect of his book ought to be to send agriculturists to those spots where they can practically verify the main facts stated in the volume. This done, the selection of the special questions affecting each case,—the character of the soil,

both mechanical and chemical, the distance from the sea, the capital commanded and required, the distribution of labour between the warm season when the root must be cultivated, and the cold season in which alone the pulp can be worked, the rotation of crops, and the general industrial return,—must be sought in each individual case. Mr. Crookes has deserved well of the country by calling attention so distinctly to the important subject. The agriculturist may have cause to thank us for calling his attention to Mr. Crookes's book.

INDEX TO THE PATENTS.

WHAT has become of the Index to the Patents, which was announced some two years ago? I cannot hear anything of it at the Patent Office, beyond a "belief that it is going to be made." Considering the sum our patentees contribute to the funds of that office, it is hard that we have no means of learning what has been done by others before us, and that we have to pay heavily for privileges that eventually turn out worthless, for want of some easily accessible register or index to the voluminous contents of the Patent Library. At present, the Patent Rolls are almost as useless to an inventor as the British Museum Library would be without a Catalogue. P. P.

SOCIETIES.

ASIATIC.—*July 4.*—Major-Gen. Sir H. C. Rawlinson, K.C.B., President, in the chair.—Mr. L. Bowring was elected a Resident Member.—General A. Cunningham exhibited his copies and impressions of a number of Mathura Pali inscriptions, carefully executed by himself when acting as Archaeological Surveyor for the Government of India. The inscriptions have lately been examined by Prof. J. Dowson, whose remarks on them were read at the Meeting. General Cunningham also gave an interesting account of the places where the inscriptions were found, and of the circumstances which led to their discovery. Most of them are dated, and contain the name of one of the Indo-Bactrian kings—Kanishka, Vāsudeva, or Huvishka. Besides, impressions of two Persian inscriptions, taken by the same officer, were exhibited, and remarks on them by Mr. E. Thomas were read. One of these, found on a stone roof-beam of a mosque at Benares, is a record of the buildings erected by Zīā Ahmad, during the reign of Firūz Shāh, dated A.H. 777 (A.D. 1375). Among other works specified, mention is made of the Mosque and domed vestibule, courtyard, flight of steps to the *kund*, or tank, and enclosure around the shrine. The other is an inscription of Násir-ud-dīn Mahmūd, on the Minaret of Coel (Alligurh), dated A.H. 652, with highly laudatory mention of his Vizir, Bahā-ud-dīn Balban. This curious monument has, unfortunately, been pulled down a few years since, by a Civilian, who acted as a magistrate of the place, and wanted the materials in order to strengthen a police-outpost.—A very curious gold Patan coin, which has lately been sent home from India to Col. Guthrie by Major Stubbs, was also exhibited, and a note on it read, contributed by Mr. Thomas, who supposes it to have been struck at Nagór, in the second year of the reign of Altamsh.

LINNEAN.—*June 16.*—G. Benthall, Esq., in the chair.—Messrs. F. Crisp and J. C. Mansel were elected Fellows.—The following papers were read: 'Petalody of the Sepals in Serapias,' by Mr. J. T. Moggridge;—'Notes on the Reptiles, Amphibia, Fish, Mollusca and Crustacea obtained during the Voyage of H.M.S. Napan, in the years 1866-69,' by R. O. Cunningham;—'Memoir on the Spermogones and Pycnides of Crustaceous Lichens,' by Dr. W. Lauder Lindsay;—'The Fungi of Ceylon (Hymenomycetes),' by the Rev. M. J. Berkeley and Mr. C. E. Broome;—'Notes on Germania,' by Mr. P. Balkwill.—Mr. Balkwill exhibited a dried specimen and drawing of a monstrous state of *Plantago lanceolata*, found among brushwood near

Tavistock, in which the inflorescence had been converted into leaves.

ENTOMOLOGICAL.—July 4.—A. R. Wallace, Esq., President, in the chair.—The Rev. F. A. Walker, M.A. and E. M. Seaton, Esq. were elected Members.—Mr. Meek exhibited specimens of several species of *Dianthæcia* from Ireland and the Isle of Man; and a *Bombyx* from the Isle of Man, which was supposed to be a dark variety of *Glyphisia crenata*.—The Hon. T. De Grey exhibited *Oxyptilus letus* from Brandon, Suffolk.—Mr. F. Moore exhibited cocoons of *Sagra* within the stem of a creeper from Bombay.—Mr. Blackmore exhibited several boxes of insects, the result of last winter's collecting in Tangier; amongst the Lepidoptera was a series of the true *Anthocharis Eupheno* of Linnaeus, and amongst the Coleoptera, a specimen of *Pimelia scabrosa*, possessing a supernumerary antenna.—Prof. Westwood made some observations on some minute Acari, found in the unopened buds of black currant-trees, and possessing only four legs, and another species which forms small pustules on the leaves of pear-trees; these, with a third form described some years since in France, he regarded as constituting a distinct tribe of the family Acaridae, and must at all events be placed in a separate genus, for which he proposed the name *Acarillus*.—The President read extracts from a letter, written by Mr. Everitt, from Borneo, detailing cases of protective mimicry which he had recently observed.—Mr. A. Müller exhibited some galls on *Ammophila arundinacea*, from Aberdeen; the insect which caused the gall was as yet unknown.—The Secretary exhibited living specimens of *Cynips ramuli* bred from the woolly-gall on the oak, sent by Sir J. C. Jervoise, Bart., from Horn-dean.—Mr. W. B. Tegetmeier sent for exhibition some nature-printed Lepidoptera, which had been recently sold as lithographs.—The following papers were read: 'Further Observations on the Relation between the Colour and the Edibility of Lepidoptera and their Larvæ,' by Mr. J. J. Weir, 'Contributions to the Insect-Fauna of the Amazons' (*Coleoptera-Longicornia*, Fam. *Cerambycidae*), by Mr. H. W. Bates, 'A List of the Hymenoptera captured by Mr. J. K. Lord in Egypt and Arabia, with Descriptions of the New Species,' by Mr. F. Walker, and 'On a Collection of Butterflies sent by Mr. Ansell from South-Western Africa,' by Mr. A. G. Butler.

ROYAL INSTITUTION.—July 4.—Sir Roderick I. Murchison, Bart., K.C.B., in the chair.—A. Balfour, Esq., J. Davenport, M.D., J. Baumgardt Elmslie, Esq., and Captain H. P. de Kantzow, R.N., were elected Members.—The Secretary announced the receipt of 2,000*l.*, a legacy from the late A. Davis, Esq., for the Promotion of Experimental Researches.

SOCIETY OF HEBREW LITERATURE.—On Wednesday, June 29th, a full meeting was held at the Westminster Jews' Free School, 60, Greek Street, Soho, to organize a Society of Hebrew Literature. Mr. F. D. Mocatta was in the chair, and among others there were present, besides the officers, Mr. M. Abrahams, the Countess d'Avigdor, Mr. E. A. Davidson, Dr. S. Davidson, Messrs. B. Emanuel, L. Emanuel, M. Henry, J. Henriques, H. L. Keeling, J. Mocatta, Sharpe and J. M. Slomon. The following officers were appointed:—President, Sir D. Salomons, Bart., M.P.; Treasurer, Mr. H. Slomon; Honorary Secretaries, Mr. I. Davis and Mr. N. E. Hartog; Committee, Dr. H. Adler, Mr. M. the Rev. B. H. Ascher, Dr. Benisch, Mr. H. D. Benjamin, Prof. Chenery, Mr. E. A. Davidson, Dr. S. Davidson, Mr. Emanuel Deutsch, Dr. Friedländer, Mr. L. Goldberg, the Rev. A. Löwy, Mr. F. Madden, Mr. F. D. Mocatta.

MEETING FOR THE ENSUING WEEK.

WEDNESDAY. Aeronautical Society of Great Britain, 8.—General Meeting.

Science Gossip.

THE Annual Meeting of the Archaeological Institute will be held at Leicester, on the 26th inst.

DR. LAWSON writes to us to say that Colonel Woodward's paper on the employment of the magnesium or electric light in photomicrography, is printed in the *Microscopical Journal*.

DR. SEEBECK has published a memoir on the propagation of sound in tubes.

THE female medical college at Philadelphia is flourishing. It has four men and four women lecturers, and fifty pupils.

HITHERTO no means have been found of curing opium-eaters of their propensity for the drug, but the experiments of Dr. Webster, an American physician, seem to show that the administration of belladonna is likely to be an efficient remedy.

A USEFUL Introduction to Entomology has been published in America by Dr. A. S. Packard. It gives a number of notes on the anatomy of insects.

AN association of medical men in Government employ has been formed in Paris, and has already held two meetings for scientific discussion. The association intends to devote itself chiefly to promoting accurate registration of births, diseases and deaths.

AMONG recent French scientific publications, are a work upon the hygiene of towns by Dr. De Freycinet, a new system of railway signals by M. Mayard, and a series of studies in agriculture by M. Isidore Pierre.

THE Royal Society of Denmark offers a gold medal this year for the best series of observations of phyllotaxis and inflorescence, with particular regard to the question as to what part the terminal bud takes in the development of phanerogamic plants.

A NEW method of bronzing porcelain has been invented by Mr. Böttger.

AT a meeting of the Council of the Royal School of Mines held on Saturday, July 2nd, the following awards were made: Two Royal Scholarships of 15*l.* each to W. H. Greenwood and F. C. Milford; H. R. H. the Duke of Cornwall's Scholarship, to P. C. Gilchrist; the Royal Scholarship of 25*l.* to R. R. Atkinson; the De la Beche Medal and prize of books to W. Gowland; and the Director's Medal and prize of books to P. C. Gilchrist. The Edward Forbes Medal and prize of books were not competed for this year.

PROF. MANTEGAZZA has communicated to the Institute of Sciences at Milan the results of experiments, from which he is led to conclude that vegetable oils have a preservative effect against malaria. He finds that flowers exhale ozone in large quantities, and of a quality superior to that produced in other ways, the exhalation being most abundant during sunshine, and least at night. It is to be inferred from this that the cultivation of aromatic plants and the use of vegetable scents would be particularly beneficial in marshy districts, or in localities where the air from any cause acquires a noxious quality; and the Professor recommends that labourers who work in swamps and rice-fields, should carry about them a small quantity of spirits of turpentine, or some other powerful aromatic. There are places enough in the broad plains of Lombardy, where the value of this recommendation might be tested.

A NEW name appears in philology, the Montese language. This is, however, only a dialect of our old acquaintance, the Walloon. Under the title of 'Glossaire Étymologique Montois,' we have a very copious production by M. J. Sigart.

THE island of Damaka and some adjoining land in the Bay of Assah, on the Arabian coast, off Babel Mandeb, have been purchased and occupied by the Italians, and will henceforth figure as an Italian settlement.

A RECENT account of some American mines says that the deepest excavation in the United States is the copper mine of Minnesota, near Lake Superior. It is 1,300 feet deep.

IT is well known that workers in lead-factories are apt in course of time to suffer from lead poisoning: in fact, a constant series of patients proceed from the lead-factories to the hospitals of London. In France the evil effects of the mineral were usually prevented by giving the workpeople a drink containing dilute sulphuric acid, but it has now been discovered that regular potatoes of milk have an equally good effect.

THE Superintendent of the Geological Survey in India proposes that geology, mineralogy and surveying be included in school and college studies in India, but on account of the deficit no attention has been paid to the proposition.

IT is stated that the ancient road from Damascus to Palmyra is again easy to travel. The Hauran, however, is at present unsafe.

THE second volume has appeared of the 'Bullettino di Bibliografia e di Storia delle Scienze Matematiche e Fisiche,' to the date of December, 1869, published by Prince B. Boncompagni, at Rome.

IN the *Proceedings* of the Stockholm Academy there is an elaborate paper on iodine and its spectrum, by Dr. Thalén.

DR. E. ROBERT has published a reply to M. Spring's papers on the Cannibalism of the Early European Races. He considers that the evidence which has been produced breaks down when the cave bones are more closely examined.

THE reed cane abounds in Virginia and the Southern States of America. A company at Norfolk are converting the fibres of this cane into paper, and, as is said, are succeeding much better than with wood.

AMONG Yankee ingenuities, there is a machine set up at Rutland, State of Vermont, which cuts slate-pencils at the rate of 20,000 in an hour. In six days, of ten hours each, this would give 1,200,000. Where are the customers for such a prodigious number of slate-pencils?

M. FOSELLI has announced to the Paris Academy of Sciences that he has succeeded in producing an amount of cold just below the zero of the Fahrenheit scale by simple mechanical action creating rapid evaporation. He employs a wheel formed of a spiral tube, both ends of which are open, set vertically and half immersed in the fluid to be cooled, so that the latter passes constantly through the whole length of the tube, half of which is constantly above the liquid, and being wet gives rise to active evaporation and consequent refrigeration within it. The evaporation is increased by a small fan. The principle is well known, but the multiplication of the points of evaporation by mechanical arrangement is ingenious; and in hot dry weather even a disc of iron turning rapidly in liquid would produce refrigeration.

M. ST.-CLAIR DEVILLE, in his continued researches on the action of steam on iron, confirms his previous declaration that, in the decomposition of water by iron, hydrogen obeys all the laws of hygrometry, at least within the limits of 150° to 1,600° Centigrade; thus, when a given volume of water is made to act on iron, the tension of the hydrogen is always the same under the same temperature, whatever be the quantity of the iron. This is in direct contradiction to Berthollet's theory of mass, long accepted but never put to actual proof. Whether the quantity of iron heated to redness be 10, 100 or 1,000 grammes, M. Deville finds the tension invariable, which appears scientifically logical.

M. SCHUTZENBERGER, Director of the Chemical Laboratory at the Sorbonne, has discovered three new combinations of platinum volatilizing at 302° Fahrenheit: the first of these consists of two equivalents of oxide of carbon, and two of chlorure of platinum; the second and third are produced by the addition respectively of one and two additional equivalents of oxide of carbon.

M. LAGOUT, Engineer of Ponts et Chaussées, has produced a cheap and ingenious modification of the equatorial sun-dial, which he calls a watch-regulator. The little instrument has been presented

to the Paris Academy of Sciences, and was much approved.

FINE ARTS

ROYAL ACADEMY OF ARTS.—THE EXHIBITION WILL CLOSE ON SATURDAY, July 30th. Admission (from 8 A.M. till 7 P.M.), One shilling; Catalogue, One Shilling.—During the last week, beginning July 25th, the Admission will be Sixpence and the Catalogue Sixpence. JOHN PRESCOTT KNIGHT, R.A., Secretary.

THE SOCIETY OF PAINTERS IN WATER COLOURS.—THE SIXTY-SIXTH ANNUAL EXHIBITION WILL CLOSE ON SATURDAY, July the 30th. 5, Pall Mall East, from Nine till Seven.—Admission, 1s. WILLIAM CALLOW, Secretary.

THE INSTITUTE OF PAINTERS IN WATER COLOURS WILL SHORTLY CLOSE their THIRTY-SIXTH ANNUAL EXHIBITION. NOW OPEN at their Gallery, 55, Pall Mall West, daily, from Nine till Dark.—Admission, 1s.; Catalogue, 6d. JAMES FAHEY, Sec.

CAVALIERE VERTUNNI (of Naples), Resident of Rome, EXHIBITION OF PICTURES OF ITALIAN SCENERY; and Marble Medallions by Miss Margaret Foley. DUDLEY GALLERY, Egyptian Hall, Piccadilly.—Open from Ten till Five. Admission, One Shilling. R. F. McNAIR, Secretary and Manager.

NEW BRITISH INSTITUTION, 39, Old Bond Street.—EXHIBITION OF WORKS by Old Masters and deceased British Artists (including many Pictures for sale), NOW OPEN.—Admission, 1s. R. J. GULLICK, Hon. Sec.

GUSTAVE DORÉ.—DORÉ GALLERY, 35, New Bond Street.—EXHIBITION OF PICTURES, including 'Christian Martyrs,' 'Monastery,' 'Triumph of Christianity,' 'Francesca de Rimini,' at the New Gallery.—OPEN from Ten till Six.—Admission, 1s.

Ecclesiastical Art in Germany during the Middle Ages. By Dr. Wilhelm Lübke. Translated from the Fifth German Edition, with an Appendix, by L. A. Wheatley. Illustrated. (Edinburgh, Jack.)

The author of the comprehensive and popular 'History of Art,' which, in an English translation, we reviewed a few months ago, has a creditable reputation in Germany for preparing such text-books,—a reputation which is fairly deserved. In the volume before us, what may be called a small parish in the great artistic empire is dealt with; small as the subject may, comparatively speaking, be, it is hardly inferior to others in interest, variety of materials or importance. Nevertheless, this subject is of far inferior concern with Englishmen than the same laborious compiler's 'Geschichte der Renaissance in Frankreich,' which we recently criticized. Dr. Lübke and those who use his name (for we should be sorry to think that such tremendous labours in compiling were undertaken by one man) have clear views of the philosophy of Art; dexterity in grouping materials; and in those parts of their works where taste, that ineffable something, is essential, they have many high qualifications and powers. Accordingly, this book, although by no means the most attractive and successful of its kind, is a good one, and is a desirable addition to the library of English students of Art.

Dr. Lübke begins with what was, so far as Germany is concerned, the beginning of Christian architecture, the early Christian basilicas—points out the antitype of these structures in the Roman judgment and market halls and antique basilicas. The latter are described as the models of the former; but not a word is said about the conversion of the one to the other. Original buildings are described as "generally without a roof," which is hardly correct, as we know they very often had roofs, both wooden and vaulted. Nor does Dr. Lübke point out that the custom of, on important occasions, as represented in one of the most famous pictures, sacrificing in front of the tribuna or apse, was an irresistible suggestion for the conversion of these edifices from judicial and commercial to ecclesiastical uses. Considering that Dr. Lübke is treating of antique basilicas and primitive churches in Germany,

it surprises us to find not a syllable about the basilica at Trèves, a city which, we believe, is still in Germany, and which certainly contains an antique basilica of great importance. Augusta Trevirorum was no insignificant colonia. This section may be taken to represent those which, in this book, treat of the antique and pre-mediæval periods in Art. We notice that the translator has no familiarity with artistic, especially architectural terms, and uses them, in mistaken consideration for English readers, with an indifference which is at once absurd and annoying. Clumsy forms of expression pervade this translation. Thus the Church of the Mother of God, Constantinople, is described as having "a broad entrance hall"; "half a hollow ball" is an unfortunate descriptive form for the dome of the Pantheon, which Mr. Wheatley is not happy in styling a "cupola," a word accepted as signifying a small dome. The explanation of "niches" by "pendentives" in Byzantine domical works is ludicrous, when "pendentives" is really meant. "Niche" haunts Mr. Wheatley; of "narthex" he has a horror; what he means by "the interior wall of a window" one cannot say. There are numerous instances of this mistaken condescension to British ignorance. The fact is not satisfactory that more than two or three ladies have recently devoted their knowledge of languages to translating books on subjects of which they have no knowledge or special qualifications to justify them in the work; this is marked in recent artistic literature. We have one such author profound in recondite studies of engravings who does not know an engraving from an etching, and is not safe on the difference between woodcuts and lithographs; another whose head is completely gone on matters of technical art; a third who fears to tax our minds with terms which every decent English dictionary explains, and which newspapers do not hesitate to employ. That Mr. Wheatley is so far unqualified for his task as to lack technical knowledge is clear, not only by the absurd reticence to which we have referred, but by the fact that he acknowledges obligations to an architect in Edinburgh, "who has assisted me in the translation of the various architectural terms." The "Appendix," which is mentioned on the title-page, is not worthy of the honour, still less of the notice it receives from the writer's Preface; it is nothing better than a common compilation, with references admitting obligations to another book of Dr. Lübke's and "the best English authorities." Was it pure ignorance or merely affectation which led our translator to introduce Dr. Lübke, himself a compiler, as the best authority to consult upon English architecture and its divergences from that of Germany? The compilation is indifferently done; the so-called "glossary of technical terms" which follows, and begins with "Abacus"—a term to be found in even the cheapest English dictionaries—is shallow; it is amusing to read of obligations confessed for its compilation to Mr. Parker's 'Glossary,' and that work described as "worthy of high commendation"; not only is the former 'Glossary' defective in these respects, but it is unfortunate in its explanations, e.g. *fascia* as a band or fillet, *clerestory* as having windows, *finial* as a flower or foliage terminating a pinnacle, *frontal*, the hanging panel in front of an altar. Besides this, the Glossary contains hardly any but the most common terms; whereas such a key is

desirable only for those which are rare and seldom understood.

Turning to the second part of Dr. Lübke's text, we find it as popular and nearly as bald as the first: it is on "the Byzantine Style." It is true that, so far as a right application of the term "Byzantine" to works in Germany permitted, there was little to tell, but it would have been best to say so at once—to point out the remains which testify to the influence of architecture as used for the Greek rite, and describe the buildings which were in vogue in Germany during the prevalence of early Byzantine design elsewhere: it might have been left out of a consideration of ecclesiastical art in Germany during the Middle Ages. We next turn to the Romanesque: here the fact that there is a vital difference between the Romanesque and the rightly-called Byzantine styles is wisely pointed out; but we differ entirely from Dr. Lübke in supposing it to be fair to speak of the "Byzantine" as more special, while the Romanesque was truly "Catholic," as the Byzantine included generally the whole of the then Catholic world. Would it be a mere pleonasm to write that Romanesque pervaded the then (Roman) Catholic world? Even in this sense it would not be wholly correct so to limit the term. Romanesque architecture receives more careful attention from Dr. Lübke than its forerunners; the exposition is clear and comprehensive in dealing with characteristics of the plans of churches. This is the best way of treating such a subject. Speaking of Romanesque examples in Germany, we may remark that the omission of the chief apse of the choir in certain Cistercian churches—Loccum, Marienthal, near Helmstadt, &c.—is, in those cases where the buildings pertained to the Cistercians, due rather to that circumstance than any other assignable cause; of course, there are square-ended churches not Cistercian; and this feature is almost characteristic in England. The author is unfortunate in rushing from the main line of his subject to expound to "the laity" the difference between a column and a pier, which nearly everybody knows: certainly such people only as know as much as that can derive advantage from this book. The details of the treatment of this interesting branch of the subject are broadly and philosophically given; and the chapter on the transition from the Romanesque, or round-arched mode of design, to that of Gothic, is valuable in Germany. Nevertheless, it is not apparently conclusive to state that a desire to bring the apexes of an arcade,—when, as in approaching a transept, the piers stood nearer to each other than in the body of the nave, to a level with the arches of that nave,—led to the introduction of the pointed arch. Our author says that "this could only be done by raising the apexes of such arches," and that "the pointed arch was the simple result"; whereas stilted arches admitted the attainment of a level line for the apexes of all the arches of an arcade, notwithstanding the differences of the spaces between the piers. It is right to add, that the use of stilted arches, ascribed to the influence of "Arabian" architecture, is noted further on in this text, under the name of the horse-shoe arch, as at Göttingen, at page 59. In writing of galleries, Dr. Lübke does not refer to those magnificent examples which are furnished by the nave of the gloriously grave Romanesque

cathedral of Tournay. These are properly associated with works in Germany proper, and worthy of all consideration; no building of the class surpasses this one in grandeur, and but few are larger.

As might be expected, the section on Gothic architecture in Germany—a style which is admittedly borrowed from the North of France,—is more wealthy in illustrations, richer in observations and research, if not more original, than those which have thus far occupied our attention. German brick-building—a branch of architectural practice which deserves more consideration as a model for English use than it has received, is briefly treated. The cities of Brandenburg and its neighbouring provinces as far eastward as the North Sea furnish abundant materials for studies more recondite than those which appear here, and would be welcome if intelligently directed. Conventual arrangements have been more carefully studied than details of design in brick, although the short chapter on this subject is full of interest.

Having thus disposed of building, or architecture proper, Dr. Lübke's text is occupied by the furniture which lent so much of the charm and beauty to German mediæval interiors of churches. The altar comes first, next its furniture, chalices, ciboria, books, censers, cruets and bells. Germany, despite wars and their attendant plunderings, is still comparatively rich in chalices and smaller sorts of ecclesiastical plate. The mass of what has been destroyed of this kind must have been astonishingly great: the motifs and characteristics of those examples which remain are well shown here, not only by the text, but by its capital illustrative woodcuts. Fonts and springs, so many of which were sacred, receive a share of notice; sepulchral monuments, derived from the practice of the Romanesque period, are next considered. The use of engraved representations, which we call monumental brasses, is dated from that of Bishop Yso, 1231, in St. Andrew's, at Verden: many others are named; and the return of the earlier preference for such memorials, in relief or the round, is pointed out, as in the Court-church at Innsbruck, where Maximilian is honoured in the fine statues in brass, of several of which there are good casts in the Crystal Palace. Screens, pulpits, organs, painted and sculptured decorations, Easter sepulchres, clocks, bells, and churchyard lights, supply the remaining subjects of this book. These later chapters too strongly resemble a catalogue of items and examples placed in chronological order and accompanied by a running commentary: we wish they had been otherwise treated, not only on account of the increase of interest promised for this noble subject, but as worthy of the learning, taste, and ingenuity which Dr. Lübke has devoted to his work.

HOLBEIN.

In your notice of the forthcoming exhibition of the works of Holbein at Dresden, you mention that the Princess Charles of Hesse Darmstadt, who owns the superior "Meyer Madonna," has promised the loan of that fine but little known picture. The version of the same work now at Dresden is familiar to many, and has been reproduced by engraving and photography. I have been unable to discover that any record has hitherto been published of the original picture at Darmstadt. It may therefore not be without interest to your readers to know that the Princess

Charles of Hesse kindly permitted the Arundel Society to have a copy of her picture made by Mons. Schultz, who has also reproduced his own work in fac-simile as a chromolithograph, and the result of his labours may now be seen in the Arundel Rooms. The print will not be issued to the members till the autumn of 1871, as from the elaborate nature of the work (being drawn on twenty-five stones), the printing will take fifteen months to execute.

F. W. MAYNARD.

THE LOAN COLLECTION, SOUTH KENSINGTON MUSEUM, 1862.

Ashmolean Museum, Oxford.

In the Loan Exhibition of 1862, in the South Kensington Museum, was the sword, from the Ashmolean Museum, which has long been known as that presented by Pope Leo the Tenth to Henry the Eighth, together with the title of "Defender of the Faith"; and in the Catalogue of the Exhibition, since published, to the description of the sword, No. 4,760, the following remarks are appended: "This sword is traditionally believed to have been given by Pope Leo the Tenth to Henry the Eighth. It is, however, obviously of much more recent date (end of sixteenth or commencement of seventeenth century), and is most likely of English workmanship."

The only ground on which the authenticity of this relic is now denied is, that the workmanship is of the latter part of the sixteenth, or the early part of the seventeenth, century. Now, a peculiar style of ornamentation must have become rather common, to make the period of its adoption so decided and unmistakable, unless its introduction originated with some known occurrence, invention or discovery,—which does not seem to be the case in this instance. The delivery of the sword from the Pope to the King was in the early part of the sixteenth century, *i. e.* May, 1514, so that the longest time between that and the period to which the writer of the remarks acknowledges that this relic belongs is not more than sixty or seventy years. Surely the authenticity of so interesting a relic, well supported on other points, cannot be disproved on the ground that an article of a very costly character, and made for a special and highly important purpose, could not have been made in a peculiar and high style of ornamentation some sixty or seventy years before that style became sufficiently common to mark the period of its adoption, even allowing that that period is so decidedly marked.

It is stated by the writer that the sword is probably of English work. May not the introduction of this sword have led to the adoption of the style of ornamentation in England? As the sword sent by the Pope was delivered to the King with great ceremony in St. Paul's Cathedral, it, doubtless, was of a style suitable for the occasion. No other but this sword is assumed to be that one, and the design of it is well adapted for such a purpose, being cruciform, and the emblems in accordance.

The sword is of far too costly a character to have been got up for a fictitious purpose, and if it is not that which it has been represented to be, what other sword is it? If of English make, can any purpose be stated from English history, of the latter part of the sixteenth or early part of the seventeenth century, for which such a sword could have been required, as even in the Catalogue it is called a State sword, and no one can imagine that it was made as a weapon for use.

The relic in question was part of Ashmole's collection, presented to the University of Oxford on the foundation of the Museum in 1683; and as at that time he was sixty-seven years old, it is probable he may have had the sword in his possession for many years, which would carry the date back to about 100 years after the death of King Henry. At that date, doubtless, the authenticity of the relic could easily have been ascertained; and it is difficult to conceive that Ashmole would have risked his reputation, and that of his collection, by giving such a relic without being well assured on the point.

On the foregoing grounds I hope that, unless the

writer of these remarks opposing the authenticity of this relic can more fully show the correctness of his opinions, the authorities of the South Kensington Museum will take some means to counteract the effect which may arise from the insertion of these remarks in the Catalogue, which doubtless in time will be looked to as an authority.

G. A. ROWELL.

* * We insert this letter with pleasure, although we see no reason to condemn the remarks to which the writer refers. Has he not overlooked the facts that the interval of time between the periods in question is equal to the duration of two generations of mankind; that this period is marked in the history of Art by more decided lines, indicating utter changes, than any other of modern times that was anything but an authority in such matters, and his collections the reverse of unquestionable in these respects? The differences in the styles of ornament in vogue at the beginning and end of this space of seventy years or so are obvious enough,—unmistakable by experts.

POMPEII IN LONDON.

SIGNOR GIACOMO LUZZATI, by a system of photographic views now being exhibited at the Crystal Palace, has succeeded in presenting to the spectator a number of admirable views, which represent Pompeii as it is, in such bold relief that he may well imagine that he is actually standing in the midst of the famous ruins. Amongst the views of the ruins are the celebrated House of the Faun, in the courtyard of which was found the beautiful dancing faun in bronze, and which contained the fine mosaic of the battle between Alexander and Darius; the Street of Tombs leading from the Herculaneum Gate; the houses of Cornelius Rufus and Marcus Lucretius, both recently discovered; a house recently excavated (1869); the house of the Tragic Poet to which, after Lord Lytton's description of it in 'The Last Days of Pompeii,' the name of the House of Glaucus was given; the Temple of Isis with its secret rooms for the mysteries, and the Temples of Fortune, Mercury, Venus, Augustus, and the majestic edifice dedicated to Jupiter. The Civic Forum with its fine porticos and columns, the Triangular Forum, the Public Baths and the Villa of Diomedes, are views which will interest and delight the spectator. Many of these ruins are restored and the restorations, which are based on the existing architectural remains, and are taken from plans of the different buildings, are most instructive. Specially interesting are the representations of the large mosaic of the Battle of Alexander, the Bacchantes, and the wall of a Pompeian room. Amongst the scenes of Pompeian life, the Combat of Gladiators in the Amphitheatre, the Chariot Race, the Quarrel between the Pompeians and the Nocerini, the Eruption of Vesuvius, and the Last Days of Pompeii, will be centres of attraction.

Fine-Art Gossip.

THE promoters of the completion of St. Paul's have received several subscriptions of 1,000*l.* each, and one of 2,000*l.* from the Grocers' Company, contingent on the raising of 100,000*l.*

THE monument to King Robert the Bruce, designed by George Cruikshank, which is to be erected at Edinburgh, will represent the king in chain-armour, standing on a rock pedestal. The statue will be in bronze, 10 feet in height; the pedestal grey granite, 12 feet high.

THE late Mr. John Meason Parsons, of Russell Square, bequeathed to the nation, through the British Museum, the National Gallery and the South Kensington Museum, his collections of pictures, drawings and prints. From these the respective institutions have selected what appear most desirable articles. The South Kensington Museum has been thus extended by not fewer than ninety-two pictures and forty-seven water-colour drawings. These include works attributed, not probably by the Museum authorities, who, doubtless, took them on their proper merits, but by the late owner and those of whom he acquired them, to many artists of

high standing; yet, as an illustration of the manner in which Mr. Parsons had been imposed on in purchasing works of Art is within our knowledge, we, until the items in question are on view, forbear to describe them further than by saying that among these examples are oil-pictures attributed to Wilson, Wynants, Teniers, Guardi, Pyne, Cuypp, Salvator Rosa, Both (?), Constable, Honthorst, Ruysdael, Gainsborough, Jan Steen, Karel du Jardin, Canaletti, Opie, Holbein and Bourgonne. The list of water-colour drawings contains, with others, the following names:—De Wint, Stanfield, C. Fielding, S. Prout, Müller, Calcott, P. Sandby and Wilkie, of deceased artists; of living painters there are the following—Messrs. C. Haag, S. Read, C. Werner, E. W. Cooke, F. Tayler, C. Smith, Hargitt and D. Cox. The National Gallery has obtained by this bequest an interesting picture reputed to be a work of Turner's early life, and two by Clays, the Belgian marine painter. The British Museum receives some useful books of prints, etchings by Capt. Baillie, and ninety-two miscellaneous prints, principally of the English school, including fine proofs after Turner by Prior, Mr. John Pye, and others: also a few drawings.

MACLISE's cartoon for the picture representing 'The Interview of Wellington and Blücher after Waterloo,' a cartoon which, as our readers are aware, was lately purchased by the Royal Academy, is to be placed in the present Lecture Room of the Academy, where a space of wall exists which is perfectly suitable for its display. It will gratify many to know that there was no danger of this cartoon being purchased by a dealer and sold piecemeal, as many apprehended might be its fate had it fallen into private hands. Independently of the Royal Academy, a resolution had been taken by another powerful body to secure this noble example. Honourable as the latter purpose was to all concerned, the work could not be in a better place than that which it will soon occupy. Thanks are due to the Council of the Academy for patriotic and energetic action in securing this example of the skill of a great artist who was trained in their schools.

MESSRS. W. C. T. DOBSON, A.R.A., and W. Deane, late of the Institute of Painters in Water Colours, were recently elected Associates of the Society of Painters in Water Colours.

MR. HOLMAN HUNT has returned to Jerusalem after an excursion of three weeks to Nazareth, a journey performed in order to advance the important picture on which he has been engaged since his return to the Holy Land, and which now occupies his attention and energies. He is making good progress with this work, and is much improved in health.

THE Royal Academy has named the following gentlemen to act as judges for admitting works of Art at the International Exhibition of 1871:—Mr. Elmore for painting, Mr. Calder Marshall for sculpture, and Mr. E. M. Barry for architecture. The Society of Painters in Water Colours has named Mr. Alfred W. Hunt, and the Society of British Artists Mr. Clint; other nominations have to be made.

It is intended to restore the large and handsome church of Gorleston, Suffolk, well known to antiquaries, particularly as containing a very fine and early monumental brass of a knight. The roof of the church is to be made open from within by removing the ceiling from the aisles. The screen is to be taken away.

It is stated, by way of comparing the outlay by France and England in the purchase of pictures during the last year, that the former country expended on the twenty-four sections of the Louvre not more than 100,000 francs, while the latter, for the National Gallery alone, laid out 209,725 francs. It is also noted, that in England the prices of the several acquisitions are stated; not so in France.

We have received from Herr Seemann, of Leipzig, a series of specimens of a new publication designed to illustrate the 'Masterpieces of the Gallery at Cassel.' These specimens consist of

etchings by Herr W. Unger, who produced a like series in reference to the Gallery at Brunswick, which we reviewed not long since. The new issue will appear in a like manner to that of its forerunner. So far as we are able to judge by means of the examples before us, Herr Unger is as fortunate as before in reproducing the characteristic qualities of the great masters' works. We now refer to an excellent transcript of Rubens's 'Maddona with Saints,' likewise to Teniers's 'Barber's Shop,' Van Dyck's 'Portrait of the Syndic Meustraten,' Rembrandt's 'Landscape with Ruins,' 'Jacob blessing the Sons of Joseph,' 'The Woodcutter's Family,' the so-called 'Portrait of Six,'—a whole-length figure of a gentleman, with a glove lying at his feet,—P. Potter's 'Cattle in a Meadow,' and others.

MUSIC

PHILHARMONIC SOCIETY.—IMPORTANT NOTICE.—The Directors of the Philharmonic Society being most anxious to make the Concert in "Honour of Beethoven" as attractive as possible, have, in consequence of various unforeseen circumstances, determined to POSTPONE it until the following MONDAY, July 11, at St. James's Hall, when Mdlle. Christine Nilsson, Miss Edith Wynne, Mr. W. H. Cummings, Mr. Santley and Madame Arabella Goddard will appear. They feel sure that these arrangements will meet the approbation of the Subscribers. All Tickets issued for Monday, July 4, will be available for this occasion.—Stalls, 10s. 6d. and 7s.; Tickets, 5s. and 2s. 6d. By Order, STANLEY LUCAS, Secretary.

'MIGNON.'

THE writers of opera-books for the French lyric stage are bold in their vocation; they do not shrink from selecting as subjects for setting, the works of the most famed poets, of the profoundest philosophers. As Shakspeare has not escaped sacrilegious hands, it was not likely that Goethe would be exempted. MM. Michel Carré and Jules Barbier have not hesitated, after their success with 'Faust,' to write a new version of 'Wilhelm Meister.' After these two libretti came 'Hamlet,' Milton and Dante may follow in due course. If the Parisian dramatists had read Carlyle's Preface to his translation of 'Wilhelm Meister,' they might have been appalled at his criticism when he maintained that in the speculative novel are typically shadowed forth "pedagogy, husbandry, art, religion, human conduct, geology, astronomy, cotton-spinning, metallurgy, anatomical lecturing, and much else." These are not all precisely themes for a musician to treat, and MM. Carré and Barbier therefore took to the beaten track in turning to account the noblest and grandest inspirations, by converting the incidents into the commonest love story, combined with sensational scenic effects, and seasoned with a dialogue replete with French vivacity and point. Perhaps the most rational way to look upon an adaptation of Shakspeare or of Goethe is to dismiss entirely from the mind the original reproductions. As in the 'Hamlet' (which was a misnomer), it is the heroine in 'Wilhelm Meister' who is rendered the chief character. Hence it is that Goethe's novel is called 'Mignon' by the arrangers, or rather disarrangers, thereof. The sale of the Italian gipsy girl to Wilhelm Meister is nearly the only incident of the tale adhered to. The hero, with his fickleness and faithlessness, is reduced to a nonentity,—so much so that there can be no surprise that the musician has failed to raise the part from its utter insignificance. It is possible that Ary Scheffer may have inspired M. Thomas infinitely more than Goethe; the painter's pencil has been more suggestive than the pen of the novelist. Mignon on the lyric stage is not, as Carlyle describes her, of the "earth, but not earthly," but she is the ordinarily persecuted heroine, her deadly enemy, Pheline, being something more than a heartless coquette; a *bête noire*, who becomes fiendish. There is something irresistibly ludicrous in the French finale of the opera, where Pheline graciously patronizes her rival by giving her her hand when it is discovered that Mignon is the daughter of Lothaire, the wandering minstrel, who proves to be the Marquis de Cypriani.

The success of 'Mignon' in Paris, where it was produced in November, 1866, has been followed by a favourable reception in some towns in Germany. Madame Patti was to have essayed the

heroine in St. Petersburg, but she preferred Esmeralda. It was a mistake. As between Campana and Thomas there could have been no difficulty of selection;—the latter is a musician, and can compose. Madame Lucca has delighted the Berliners in the German adaptation; but from every point of view, the character and music are better suited to the capabilities of Mdlle. Nilsson than to those of any other *artiste* of the present period. Jenny Lind excepted, it is difficult to indicate any vocalist who could have done more justice to Mignon as depicted by the French author and as noted by the French composer; for the work, both dramatically and musically, can only be regarded from the Opéra-Comique point of view, which, after all, has really nationality to recommend it. 'Mignon' is essentially French, dramatically as well as musically. M. Ambroise Thomas, in much that is commonplace or laboured, has some genuine inspiration at times. Glancing retrospectively at his works composed before 'Mignon,' and at 'Hamlet,' which is his last production, his setting of Goethe's creation is perhaps his most consistent opera. His career has been chequered certainly since he won the *Grand Prix de Rome* in 1832, for a forgotten Cantata, 'Hermann und Hetty.' His one-act opera, 'La double Échelle,' in 1837, was his *début* for the stage, and he has never done anything better. "Estime" has been the word of the French critics for the majority of his works. His great hit was his buffa opera, the 'Caid,' in 1849. The music, which was a parody on the Italian school, was very provocative of laughter; but one signal misfortune followed its long run—it created Offenbach and his school. The 'Songe d'une Nuit d'Été' of M. Thomas, in 1850, in which the librettists MM. De Leuven and Rosier made Shakspeare the lover of Queen Elizabeth, omitting Oberon and Titania, Puck, and Bottom, hardly travelled beyond the precincts of the Salle Favart. Nevertheless, it was the caricature of Shakspeare which secured M. Thomas a seat in the Institute, as the successor of Spontini, the composer of the 'Vestale' and of 'Fernando Cortez.' Had 'Mignon' appeared before the 'Midsummer Night's Dream,' no apology would have been necessary for the extension of Academic honours to M. Thomas.

There is always a great disadvantage in the adaptation of a French opera with spoken dialogue for the Italian stage; namely, the conversion of a lively conversation into accompanied recitative. The operas of Auber have suffered severely from the transition, as is well known to the amateurs who have seen 'Fra Diavolo' and the 'Domino Noir' at the Salle Favart, in Paris, and at the Covent Garden Opera House, in London. M. Thomas has fallen into the besetting sin of composers of recitatives, which replace rapid and vivacious dialogue. He has over-elaborated the accompaniments, and the action is retarded, which, in an opera of the length of the original French 'Mignon,' was not at all necessary. The mainstay of the drama in Paris was the admirable acting of Coudere's *Laerte*. Whilst he was on the stage the piece never flagged,—critical Goethe himself would have been delighted with the clever creation of the French actor; Coudere's polished and pointed style of delivering the dialogue relieved the dullness of Achard,—he was the *Wilhelm Meister*,—and the dreariness of Bataille,—he was *Lothaire*, the heavy father of *Mignon*.

Even with the numerous "cuts" in the French book, involving almost the total extinction of the part of *Laerte*, the Drury Lane adaptation lasted on the opening night (Tuesday) nearly four hours. The thinning of the house began at the third act, and before the fourth act was half over the empty stalls and boxes indicated sufficiently how dull and weary the performance had been—despite the finished acting and singing of Mdlle. Nilsson and M. Faure and the brilliant vocalization of Madame Volpini. Out of the seventeen numbers of the score the only one encoored was the Overture, certainly the least entitled to the distinction. It has no defined subject, except a polacca of the commonest kind, which can be called a theme. The overture

opens with a conversational set of phrases for the wood band, gliding into some harp exercises and a *motif* for the horn, which are succeeded by a Torch March by no means brilliant, but sufficiently noisy, and constructed in a manner to leave no difficulty for the writers of dance music to convert the overture into quadrilles, polkas and waltzes. Passing over the introduction, which includes the conventional beer-drinking chorus—heavy enough assuredly—and a Bohemian ballet and chorus, a few bars of melody introduce the demented minstrel Lotario, who foreshadows the existence of a lost daughter. The vocal variations of Filina accompanying the revellers indicate the frivolity of the coquette. A sestet of the Verdi type—very pronounced—after the rescue of Mignon by Guglielmo from Giarno's brutality, enabled Madame Volpini to display her high notes. Next comes a neat *terzetto*, with more roulades from Filina. This number is followed with perhaps the best bit of writing in the opera, the recitative and romance in which Mignon tells Guglielmo her antecedents so far as memory will serve. A love chaunt from the persecuted maiden, declaimed on one note, with the orchestral undercurrent, is really a conception which touches sensibly. The duet between Mignon and Lotario has some happy accompaniments, the harp and violoncello predominating. The finale of the first act, after Meyerbeer—a long way indeed—may be passed over in silence. In the second act, divided into two sections at Drury Lane, there is an air for Madame Trebelli-Bettini, interpolated, doubtless, to induce the clever contralto to play Frederico. The *rondo-gavotte* will not compensate her for accepting such an insignificant part. As Signor Bettini (*Guglielmo*) had a tenor air excised in the first act, a similar favour was extended to Signor Gassier by the omission of a "Madrigale," thus reducing Laerte to a walking gentleman. As if Filina had not enough roulades in the overture-polacca, an air has been added for her of no moment whatsoever, except to provoke Madame Volpini to sing sharp in some musical passages. The composer has missed a good opportunity for an effective trio in the scene where the coquette is inveigling Guglielmo, and Mignon, affecting to sleep, cannot conceal her jealousy. The so-called "Stiriana," evidently suggested by Donizetti's "Betty" cavatina, was very cleverly acted and sung by Mdle. Nilsson. There is very unmeaning music in the numbers, which are a repetition of Mignon's troubles and the Minstrel's raving, but, drivelling as the soprano and bass are made to be, their combined wrongs and rage reach an astounding climax; for when Mignon wishes that the theatre may be burnt down in which her rival is playing Titania, Lotario calls out "Fire! fire! fire!" and then indulges in an act of incendiarism, enabling Guglielmo to rescue Mignon from the flames after she had gone into the theatre to fetch a bouquet for Filina. The composer is scarcely to be blamed that he could not write descriptive music for such fiery incidents. If the last act were considerably pruned and the discovery of the lost child was not proved by such a mass of evidence, the acting and singing of Nilsson and Faure would suffice to render the situation interesting. But the music is very ponderous; the instrumentation overloads the voices; there are no soul-stirring themes to touch the heart. The Prayer of Mignon may have been dictated by Zerlina's hymn in 'Fra Diavolo,' before she retires to rest. And this is one peculiarity about the music of M. Thomas—that he has no individuality—there is no spontaneity in his melodious imagery—it is forced and broken, and does not dwell on the ear. A Verdi outbreak of the three voices of Nilsson, Bettini and Faure constitutes the *finale*.

Amateurs who heard Mdle. Nilsson at Baden-Baden, where she sang Mignon in French, are of opinion that her present reading is too subdued—it is too dreamy, too undertoned, and the reading requires relief. There is truth in the criticism, but it is a charming creation, not the less replete with delicate points and fascinating *finesse*. That Mignon could be presented in a stronger light is certain. The savage element so powerfully delineated by

Goethe would, in the hands of highly dramatic singers, be more predominant.

OPERAS, CONCERTS AND FESTIVALS.

THE fine acting and singing of Mdle. Nilsson as *Elvira*, and of M. Faure as *Don Juan*, are entitled to more special notice than space can afford at present; but if these artists are to be adequately supported at Drury Lane, the cast of Mozart's masterpiece must be reformed. Such a Donna Anna, such a Zerlina, such representatives of Leporello, Masetto and Don Ottavio, cannot be tolerated; and so the audience evidently considered. There was the less excuse for the shortcomings as the company comprises the names of Madame Sinico, Madame Monbelli, Mdle. Murska, Madame Volpini, Signori Mongini, Bettini, Verger and Gassier, besides Mr. Santley, out of which list efficient representatives could have been found for the parts specified above. It was a slovenly *ensemble*, even without reference to the deficiencies of principals, quite as bad as that at Covent Garden this season, as there the strength of the cast rests solely on Patti and Tietjens. Mozart's operas at both houses have fared indifferently this year. Will the operatic public be contented to fall back on Lucias, Aminas, Marthas and Traviatas?

There is no temptation to dwell on the revival of that sparkling masterpiece by Auber, the 'Domino Noir.' The cast at Covent Garden is worse than weak—it is positively disagreeable. The amateurs who can recall the time when Cinti-Damoreau was the *Angela*, M. Couderc *Horace* (Roger afterwards), Grignon the English Lord, and M. Roy *Gil Perez*, at the Opéra Comique, in Paris, cannot accept as successors singers who have not the most remote notion of the French School.

Now that the opera and concert season is rapidly coming to a close, attention is being drawn to the autumnal musical meetings at home and abroad. The Beethoven Centenary Celebration at Bonn and Vienna in September and October will, doubtless, attract a large number of amateurs from all parts. But none of these gatherings will be more interesting and important than the Birmingham Triennial Musical Festival, which will take place on the 30th and 31st of August, the 1st and 2nd of September. It will be the thirtieth celebration, and the arrangements and engagements will be on the usual grand scale. Sir Michael Costa will be the Conductor, his choral and orchestral forces being thoroughly trained executants. Various novelties, according to the custom of the Birmingham managers will be introduced, and the London rehearsals of the new works by Ferdinand Hiller, Benedict, Sullivan, J. F. Barnett, &c., are fixed for the 9th, 10th and 12th of August.

The engagements for the Hereford Musical Festival on the 23rd, 24th, 25th and 26th of the next month, have been definitely made; for the leading soprano parts Mdles. Tietjens and Edith Wynne; for the contralto music Madame Patey and Miss Marion Severn; Mr. Vernon Rigby and Mr. Montem Smith will divide the tenor parts, and the two basses are Messrs. Santley and Lewis Thomas. Mr. Townshend Smith, the organist of the Cathedral, is to be the conductor—*ex cathedra*. The novelties in the programme are Mr. Sullivan's cantata, 'The Prodigal Son,' first brought out at the Worcester Festival last year, and Mr. J. Barnby's cantata, 'Rebekah,' produced at the Oratorio Concerts this season. One remarkable innovation at the Hereford Meeting will be an evening performance in the Cathedral on the opening day. Mendelssohn's Reformation Symphony will also be executed in the Cathedral. These signs and tokens at Hereford on the part of the Dean and Chapter point significantly at recent events in Worcester, where the attempt to suppress the Festival triennial performances in the Cathedral, by an offer of a tempting sum towards the restoration of the edifice, has been defeated. From the latest returns, there appears to be no reasonable doubt as to the raising of the amount specified in Mr. Scott's revised estimates, to complete the repairs and renovation of the Cathedral. The subscriptions are pouring in from the country and town, and the panic

as to the abolition of the three-choir musical meetings has passed away.

The twenty-sixth season of the Musical Union has ended, a composite scheme characterizing the final *matinée*, in honour of the centenary of the birth of Beethoven: his Quintet in E flat, for piano, oboe, clarinet, bassoon and horn, and his Septet (Op. 20) for violin, viola, violoncello, contra-basso, clarinet, horn and bassoon, were executed. It was a mistake to give only the *andante* and *finale* of the Kreutzer Sonata. No composition of classical chamber-music should be curtailed to give place for an extra number of pieces. The next selection might have been dispensed with. The director has introduced a new violinist, Herr de Graan,—a new violoncellist, Herr L. Lubeck,—and a new pianist, M. Delaborde, of Paris. The artists who have reappeared have been Herr Reinecke, from Leipzig; Madame Auspitz Kolar; M. Leschetizky, from St. Petersburg; Miss Agnes Zimmermann, besides other professors, who are regular residents in London. The list is suggestive to the managers of other concerts for chamber-music, not to let the programmes year after year enrol only names of players who are becoming too ancient for modern practice. More attention might be paid to the home market in seeking for a supply of executive ability. London can now hold her own against the majority of continental comers in resident artists, whether native or foreign.

There is little to notice in the past week's miscellaneous concerts. The *début* of a juvenile lady violinist, Mdle. Thérèse Liebe, at the Saturday Crystal Palace Opera entertainments, was successful in showing her dexterity in a Concerto by De Beriot; but the instrument is not a graceful one when shouldered by a lady; and it can only be extraordinary skill which can reconcile hearers to have the violin taken from masculine hands.—There have been *matinées* and *soirées* of the ordinary kind, amongst the givers of which may be noticed the names of Miss Katherine Poyntz, Miss Ellen Jarmon, M. Albert, M. Jules Lefort, Mr. John R. Blagrove, Madame Montseratt, Mdle. Mathilde Martin, who plays Schubert, Schumann and Liszt. A MS. Quintet, for pianoforte, violin, concertina, viola and violoncello, by the Dutch composer, M. E. Silas, which was introduced by Mr. R. Blagrove, is not likely to secure the admission of the concertina into classical chamber compositions.

The Tonic Sol fa College authorities boast that their system is spreading to Madagascar, Beyrout, Hong Kong and Spain, an odd mixture of countries. Mr. Curwen, at the summer session, exhibited an Arabic Sol-fa Tune-Book and two Chinese Sol-fa books. The method has been adopted also in New South Wales.

Musical Gossip.

HERR JULES STOCKHAUSEN, who has left London for Germany, will return in November for the Monday Popular Concerts, but it is to be hoped that the engagements of the German bass will be extended to the singing of oratorio music, which at present is almost solely dependent in the barytone bass parts, on Mr. Santley, who cannot, of course, be always available for the Sacred Harmonic season, owing to his operatic tours in the provinces. There is a fine opening for singers, whether sopranos, contraltos, tenors or basses, in the sacred school of composition.

M. AMBROISE THOMAS, the composer, has been in town to superintend the rehearsals of 'Mignon.'

THE new three-act opera by M. de Flotow—the composer of 'Stradella,' 'Marta,' &c.—'L'Ombre,' will have been produced in Paris at the Théâtre de l'Opéra Comique during this week.

M. NICOLINI has been tempted by the managers of the San Carlos, at Lisbon, to quit the Italian Opera House in Paris, the terms for the tenor being 3,200*l.* for five months, and a benefit.

HERR MAX STRAKOSCH, brother of Maurice Strakosch, the teacher and brother-in-law of Madame

Patti, has been in London to arrange for the departure of Mlle. Nilsson on the 27th of August for America.

M. MARTINET takes possession of the Lyrique, in Paris, on the 1st of July, and is making engagements for the opening of the season.

WAGNER's opera, the 'Walkyrie,' was produced on the 26th ult., at Munich, for the first time. The work forms the first section of the trilogy, the 'Nibelungen.' The representation was stormy, but the composer carried the majority of the audience with him.

A COMMITTEE has been revising the rules and regulations of the Conservatoire in Paris, with a view to secure more effective teaching of singing and lyric declamation. It would be beneficial if a similar committee was formed to amend the practice and tuition of our Royal Academy of Music.

A PRELIMINARY programme of the Beethoven Centenary Festival, which will be held at Bonn on the 11th, 12th and 13th of September, has been issued. The works to be executed will comprise the Grand Mass in D, the Symphony Eroica, the Choral Symphony No. 9, the c minor, the choral pianoforte Fantasia, the March and Chorus from 'The Ruins of Athens,' the Overtures to Leonora (No. 3), Fidelio, Coriolanus and Egmont, the violin Concerto (played by Joachim), a pianoforte Concerto (Herr Halle). The chief singers will be Madame Bollengrath of Dresden, Madame Joachim of Berlin, Herr Vogl, tenor, from Munich, Herr Schulze, basso, of Hamburg. The conductor will be Ferdinand Hiller, of Cologne.

DRAMA

OLYMPIC THEATRE.

In producing the spectacular extravaganza of 'Undine,' the management of the Olympic continues an experiment previously commenced. It seeks to appeal to tastes in the audience higher than those for which the purveyor of burlesque is accustomed to cater; to please the eye with scenery in which artistic combination rather than mere splendour of decoration is sought, to gratify the ear with music of sterling merit instead of street ballad and music-hall absurdity; and to cast over the whole entertainment some of the

Enchanting spells that lie
Lurking in sweet poetry.

Unfortunately for the success of the attempt, the first performance of 'Undine' was characterized by a larger amount than usual of the confusion and unreadiness common in England on such occasions. Actors did not know their parts, singers sang out of tune, scenes worked unevenly and with harsh noises, or refused to develop themselves into the right shapes. A week more should, in fact, have been spent in rehearsal before the play was produced. Under these circumstances it is hard to judge of the merits of the composition. Mr. Reece appears, however, to have been more successful in the construction of his drama than in his versification. The story as seen in a dramatic shape is interesting, and its action is quite comprehensible; but the versification lacks the point and ease to which we have been accustomed in the compositions of Mr. Gilbert, or, to go back still further, in those of Mr. Planché. The original legend is pretty closely followed; the only important departure from it being that Michael the fisherman, by whom Undine is sheltered, is provided with a son. Mr. Belmont played *Kuhleborn* the water-spirit; Mr. David Fisher was *Michael*; Miss Mattie Reinhardt, *Bertalda*, and Miss Lizzie Russell, an actress new to London, *Undine*. A small part was prettily played by Miss Rachel Sanger. Some of the scenic effects were tasteful and elaborate. One scene in particular, representing the descent of Undine into the waters, suggested apparently by the lines in 'Comus,'

The water nymphs that in the bottom played,
Held up their pearly wrists and took her in,

was unusually effective. The significance of later scenes was obscured by the imperfection of the

machinery. Those who, in a week or two, visit 'Undine' are likely to find it an attractive spectacle.

HAYMARKET THEATRE.

A CURIOUS and forgotten little comedy, by Tom Parry, entitled 'A Cure for Love,' has been produced at the Haymarket Theatre. The idea on which it is based is droll. Two men, purposing to commit suicide, meet together, and find their presence mutually embarrassing. One is driven to despair by the ungovernable temper of his wife; the other by the loss of his love. The audience meanwhile has a suspicion, shortly to be proved correct, that the same woman causes both calamities. Instead of dying together, the two men upon whom chance has thrust acquaintanceship swear eternal friendship, and adjourn to a tavern. Fortified by strong potations, the husband returns home and asserts his authority in a manner that renders further trouble in matrimonial affairs improbable. His companion, moreover, receives such proofs of the temper of her for whom he has pined as cures him of all further longing. There is much fun in the situations, and the dialogue is fairly smart and telling. One character—that of Sadgrove, the lachrymose lover, originally played by Mr. Buckstone, and now resumed by him—is original. Mr. Buckstone makes the complaints of the too faithful swain very diverting. His impersonation would be a little more artistic, however, if he omitted one or two concessions to the vulgar taste of the audience. Mr. Everill, an actor from Manchester, made his first appearance as *Felix Trimmer*, the husband by whom the modern taming of a shrew is accomplished. Mr. Everill seems an actor who is likely to play many parts fairly, and few with special excellence.

On Friday night, for Mr. Sothorn's benefit, 'David Garrick' was revived. This evening, the last of the season, 'The Babes in the Wood' will be produced, for Mr. Buckstone's benefit.

GAIETY THEATRE.

AMONG French causes célèbres, the trial of M. Lesurques for the murder of the *Courrier de Lyon* has stood conspicuous, not only for the remarkable errors which caused the death of an innocent man, but for the proceedings to which it subsequently gave rise for the recovery of the property of the victim of judicial mistake. Lesurques was singularly unfortunate. But for the misguided zeal of one of his friends, who, convinced of his innocence, committed forgery, with the hope of proving it to the jury, he would probably have escaped the consequences of his fatal resemblance to the murderer Dubosq; and had not the Council of Five Hundred been led into an error equally singular with that on which the conviction depended, his pardon must have been finally obtained. Lesurques died, however, in 1797; and many successive changes of government have witnessed the attempts of his family to obtain a reversal of his sentence and a restoration of his property, which was confiscated. Contrary to statements which have again and again been made in England, such reversal has not been declared. Some of the most eminent jurists of France have, indeed, maintained that there was no error, and that the confession of Dubosq of the guilt of the murder was valueless against the evidence of the witnesses who, in his presence, maintained their first statement, that Lesurques was the criminal. The circumstances, however, which came out on the trial of Lesurques were sufficiently strange and dramatic to recommend themselves for stage treatment. Soon after the trial, they were employed in a melo-drama by Caigniez, entitled 'L'Ouvrier de Messine.' In March, 1850, the well-known drama by MM. Siraudin, Moreau and Delacour, 'Le Courrier de Lyon,' was produced at the Gaité. In this, the incidents of the story were closely followed, and the names of the principal characters were retained. The descendants of Lesurques, seeing, doubtless, in the public sympathy likely to be evoked, a renewed chance of obtaining the decision for which they strove, gave a written consent to the employment of the name of Lesurques. On the 5th of June, a translation,

by Mr. Charles Reade, of the 'Courrier de Lyon,' was given, by Mr. Charles Kean, at the Princess's. It was well received; the impersonation of the two characters of Lesurques and Dubosq being as popular as the representation of the brothers Dei Franchi in 'The Corsican Brothers.' Since 1854, however, double impersonations have been a little overdone, and the taste for them has passed away. Hence, though 'The Courier of Lyons' is to the majority of play-goers altogether unknown, the revival at the Gaiety is not likely to be lastingly attractive. Mr. Vezin makes, undoubtedly, the most of the double part he performs. The contrast between the remorseless villainy of the one, and the evident and bewildered innocence of the other, is admirable. Such devices as quick change of dress and consequent rapidity of re-appearance in different characters, though amusing enough to contemplate, are within the reach of mean artists. Acting, however, like that Mr. Vezin exhibits when, in the last act, as *Dubosq*, he witnesses the preliminaries of the execution of the man whose death frees him from risk, or when he enters the house of Didier for the sake of annulling the evidence which might have freed the innocent and endangered himself, is rare, however, upon any stage. For a part of this kind Mr. Vezin is more than competent. The support he received from the remainder of the company was indifferent. Mr. Atkins as *Choppard*, one of the assassins, Mr. Soutar as *Courriel*, a second, Mrs. Leigh as *Janette*, the deserted wife of Dubosq, and Mr. Maclean as *Dorval*, a magistrate, were tolerable. Miss E. Farren as *Joliquet*, the only spectator of the murder, was something more. Some of the other characters were very inefficiently sustained by members of the company; and in Miss Fane, who played *Julie Lesurques*, inadequacy attained its limits. Managers who are not blind to the advantages of pretty faces upon the stage should remember that acting is an art, and that such wooden and unsympathetic demeanour as Miss Fane exhibits is seriously detrimental to an entire representation.

Dramatic Gossip.

MRS. SCOTT SIDDONS will appear at the Haymarket Theatre on Monday next in 'The Lady of Lyons.'

DURING the last six months the Comédie has given the large and almost unequalled number of eighty-two different pieces. A variety of novelties are still in preparation. 'Une Fête sous Nérone,' by M. Louis Belmontet, is in rehearsal: the 'Louis XI.' of Casimir Delavigne will follow, with Lafontaine as the King, Laroche as the Dauphin, Delanay as *Nemours*, Regnier as *Coëtier*, Maubant as *François de Paule*, and Coquelin as *Marcel*. The two female characters, *Marie* and *Marthe*, will be supported respectively by Madame Victoria Lafontaine and Mlle. Dinah-Félix. 'Les Deux Reines' of M. Legouvé, 'Le Distrain,' and 'La Mère et la Fille' are also in contemplation.

THE subventions to the theatres in the new Budget amount to 1,600,000 francs.

FROM Egypt we hear of the death, in his fiftieth year, of M. Thémostocle Solera, author of the libretti of some works of Verdi.

A COMEDY by M. Charles Monsielet has been successfully given in Baden. Its title is, 'Les Femmes qui font des Scènes.' A large proportion of the company at the Palais Royal, including Gil Perez, Brasseur, Hyacinthe, Lassouche, Mesdames Thierret, Baron, Reynold and Bloch, are expected shortly to arrive in Baden.

M. BELLEVAUT, formerly Director of the Gymnase theatre at Marseilles, has undertaken the management of the theatre in Cairo.

A RUMOUR is current in Paris that Mr. Strange has taken the Châtelet, for the purpose of converting it into a large establishment like the Alhambra.

ENGLISH Literature has been honourably connected, "many a time and oft," with the story of Joan of Arc. English Dramatic Literature has not so often busied itself with this dramatic theme.

There is, first, the caricature of the Maid in Shakespeare, and the outrage upon her in a late burlesque. Between those two, there is 'Joan of Arc,' the ballet of action, with choruses and songs, by Cross, in 1798. In 1822, Ball, before he put the prefix *Fitz* to his name, brought out his 'Joan of Arc' at Sadler's Wells, with Mrs. Egerton for the heroine and Keeley as *Valiant*. Mrs. Warner subsequently acted the Maid, who, in the forthcoming play, will have a beautiful representative in Mrs. Rousby.

THE great heat in New York has almost put an end to theatre-going. The exception is the continued success of the melo-drama of 'Fernande' at Daly's Fifth Avenue Theatre.

THE fire in Pera deprives the Perotes of much of their amusement. The main street constituted part of the great afternoon promenade. There were the Naoum Theatre and the Jardin des Fleurs. The Naoum Theatre was built by Mr. Smith, the architect of the Woods and Forests, then engaged on the Palace of the English Embassy. Both his buildings have been destroyed. This theatre was a regular winter house for Italian opera, and occasionally for French, Greek and Armenian plays. Many crowned heads had patronized the theatre, but few operatic celebrities had been associated with it. A company was in progress for a larger national theatre; but it is possible the heavy demands on the resources of the wealthy classes may retard this and the rebuilding of the Naoum Theatre. The latter afforded steady employment for a small Italian company.

MR. EDMUND FALCONER has returned to England from America.

THE Hankow Amateur Dramatic Corps having noticed that we announced their performances, have sent us an account of them. The conductor of the operetta was no less a personage than "the Organist and Director of the Choir of the Church of St. John the Evangelist"; and the acting seems to have been good.

ANTIQUARIAN NOTES.

The Graylls.—Referring to the note of your correspondent, Mr. J. Piggott, jun., in *Athenæum* No 2226, may I be allowed to say that I am perfectly well aware of the meaning of the entry in the Churchwardens' books, viz., "Thre Graylls"? The name Graal is derived from two distinct sources, the first of these being the "Gradale" (Graduale) in which the legend was written about the year 720 A. D. For an account of the confusion which arose, and the ultimate fusion which took place, between the Latin Gradale and the Provençal Graal, in the contracted form Graal, by which the vessel in the legend has since been known, I will merely refer to *Athenæum* No. 2215. My object in sending the entry from the Churchwardens' books was that some interest might attach to the use, in the sixteenth century, of the word Grayll (Graal) as a contraction for the "Gradale" or Graduale, furnishing, as I venture to think it does, evidence corroborative of the theory stated above.

R. SOMERVELL.

A New Reading in 'Macbeth.'—In the *Athenæum* of the 25th of June is a notice of a suggestion by Mr. Wetherell "that *defeat* should be read instead of *disseat*." In a small volume of conjectural emendations, published by me in the beginning of this year, will be found (p. 71) the following note:—"Folios 2, 3 and 4 for *disseat*, have *diseat*. Steevens and others, adopting Capell's and Jennen's conjecture, changed to *disseat*, which change naturally carried with it the conjecture (Percy's) that *cheer* should be *chair*. Qy. read—'Will cheer me ever, or *defeat* me now.'" From the above note it will be seen that Mr. Wetherell's conjecture, though no doubt original to himself, is no longer a "new reading."

P. A. DANIEL.

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